



**CHULA VISTA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
FAMILY HISTORY GAZETTE**



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CVGS Web Site: <https://chulavistagenealogysociety.wildapricot.org/>

CVGS Blog: <http://CVGenCafe.blogspot.com>

Volume 30, Issue 9

Providing Genealogy Education in South San Diego County September 2020

Wednesday, 30 September 2020, 12 noon

CVGS General Meeting

in a Zoom Video Conference Meeting

Colin Whitney on "Discovering the Nicholas Family In the British Isles"

This presentation traces the process of uncovering several generations of my great-great-grandmother Nicholas branch of the family tree. It involves cooperation with a cousin via the internet, a family Bible, finding the MRCA from a DNA match and piecing together small clues to reveal the story. It ends with an attempted invasion of the British Isles.

Colin Whitney was born and raised outside London, England and attended high school at the Ottershaw Boarding School. He studied physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and went on to obtain his Doctorate. He accepted a position there as Assistant Professor in the Electrical Engineering Department before continuing his research at the Central Research Laboratory of the Sperry Rand Corporation. In the late 1970s he moved to California joining the Hughes Aircraft Company in Culver City, California as a technical manager. Later he transferred to their Missile Systems Group and moved with them to Tucson, Arizona where became the Technical Director. He retired in 1999.



This program will be held online using the ZOOM video conferencing platform for meetings and webinars. See page 3 of the June 2020 newsletter for help with Zoom.

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President's Message – by Karen Smith



It is about now, every two years, that our society is looking for nominations for new officers. We vote in November and install our new officers at our December meeting, the Christmas luncheon. It is highly doubtful that we will be meeting in person for several months.

The pandemic has changed everything and I want to inform you that your Board is currently weighing our options for officers in 2021. We have discussed protocol – changing by-laws – but that is a long process and does not seem appropriate for what we hope will be a once in a lifetime event. Another possibility is some kind of Board resolution delaying elections until life is somewhat normal again. Whatever we decide, we hope that you will lend your support to our decision.

Meanwhile, if you have any aspirations for serving our society, we would love to hear from you. I am a firm believer in term limits. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as president and would gladly serve another term, but would also welcome any member who would like to take on any office in our society. Some of our officers positions are: President, First Vice-President/Program chair (currently Virginia Taylor), Second Vice-President/Membership chair (currently Carrie Holleron), Treasurer (currently Karen Polk), and Secretary (currently Ana Castro.) We also have other positions on the Board: hospitality, librarian, education, newsletter, research, historian, ways and means, and webmaster. Hopefully, I included everyone who keeps us functioning.

Soon we will make a decision about 2021 and I hope that even if we delay the election process, you will think about coming forward to give back to our society. There is no better group of people to work with and anyone who feels the call to assume a position will be completely supported by the person currently in that post. Think about it – new people give new ideas to us all and energize our group!

Please Note: All CVGS Events at Chula Vista Library Are Canceled Until Further Notice!

The Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library and the other branches of the library are closed until the embargo on meetings of groups of people and distancing from others are lifted.

Consequently, all CVGS in-person meetings are canceled. We will try to have Zoom online video conferencing meetings for the Board of Directors, the Research Group, the DNA Interest Group, and the General Meetings with a speaker. See page 3 of the June Newsletter for Zoom program details, or contact Randy Seaver (email randy.seaver@gmail.com).

Unfortunately, the pandemic precautions mean that this Newsletter will only be sent by email to CVGS members. If you have a CVGS member friend that receives the newsletter by postal mail, please call them and let them know about upcoming events and society news. If they can receive it by email, have them email randy.seaver@gmail.com to get on the email distribution list.

FamilySearch Announces RootsTech Connect 2021: A FREE Global Virtual Event

FamilySearch is thrilled to announce that the RootsTech 2021 conference previously planned for February 3–6, 2021, in Salt Lake City, Utah, will now be held on February 25–27, 2021, as a free, virtual event online. RootsTech Connect 2021 will enable attendees to participate from around the world and will feature inspiring keynote speakers, dozens of classes in multiple languages, and a virtual marketplace. Reserve your place today for free at RootsTech.org and helping tens of thousands of participants worldwide to discover, gather, and connect their family story. **Register for FREE at <https://rootstech.org>.**

RootsTech hopes to gather in-person again in the future but anticipates the RootsTech Connect virtual opportunity will become a regular addition to the event.

“The pandemic is giving us the opportunity to bring RootsTech to a broader audience worldwide,” said Steve Rockwood, FamilySearch International CEO. “A virtual event also allows us to expand our planning to truly make this a global celebration of family and connection.”

RootsTech Connect 2021 will be global in scope while offering many experiences that attendees have come to know and love from RootsTech events—including inspirational keynote speakers, dozens of classes to choose from, and an expo hall. Throughout the three-day online event, attendees will have the ability to interact with presenters, exhibitors, and other attendees through live chat and question and answer sessions.

“Classes will be taught in many languages, and presenters will teach from a number of international locations,” said Rockwood. “We will celebrate cultures and traditions from around the world, with activities that the audience can participate in from home—such as homeland cooking demonstrations, storytelling, and music performances. This is one virtual event you won’t want to miss.”

RootsTech Connect 2021 will offer a combination of both livestream and on-demand content to accommodate differences in time zone for participants. In addition, sessions will be available to view on-demand after the event concludes.

Rockwood says that FamilySearch is looking forward to the opportunity to deliver the signature RootsTech experience and helping tens of thousands of participants worldwide to discover, gather, and connect their family stories.

RootsTech, hosted by FamilySearch, is a global conference celebrating families across generations, where people of all ages are inspired to discover and share their memories and connections. This annual event This annual event has become the largest of its kind in the world, attracting tens of thousands of participants worldwide.

Do You Have a Research Story to Share?

Because we are sending email newsletters, we are not limited to 10 pages. If you have a research or family story about an ancestor or your genealogy research, please send it to the editor as a PDF file and we will be happy to publish it. If you have a photograph or document image, that can be published too! This month, I added one of my recent blog posts to page 11!

Want Up-To-Date Genealogy News?

Randy Seaver publishes “Genealogy News Bytes” every Tuesday and Friday with links to genealogy news articles, new or updated online record collections, genealogy education opportunities (webinars, podcasts, video), genealogy bargains, DNA success stories, and more. See an example at <https://www.geneamusings.com/2020/09/genealogy-news-bytes-friday-4-september.html> .

Dick Eastman publishes genealogy news and technology articles daily on his Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter – check daily at <http://www.eogn.com>.

Here are some of the significant August genealogy news items:

- [Mayflower II Returns To Plymouth Monday After 3-Year Renovation](#)
- [Thousands of Rare Artifacts Discovered Beneath Tudor Manor's Attic Floorboards](#)
- ['The mystery is over': Researchers say they know what happened to 'Lost Colony'](#)
- [Back-to-School is Here! Ancestry® Providing Free Resources for Educators and Parents](#)
- [Through MyHeritage, Great-Grandmother of 2 is Reunited with Uncles and Aunt She Never Knew Existed](#)
- [Family reunited with First World War family treasure after Toronto man finds Bible on the street](#)
- [FOREVER® Announces Increased Globalization of its Ambassador Force](#)
- [Another Method of Finding Cemetery Locations](#)
- [New online resources help \[Australia's\] Indigenous people trace ancestors](#)
- [Dutch Genealogy News for August 2020](#)
- [How to Store Print Photographs So They Last for Generations](#)

Useful Genealogy Blog Posts for the Last Month

- [Episode 338 – Dr. Blaine Bettinger on Ancestry's Centimorgan Change and How DNA from Heirlooms Could Lead to Great Breakthroughs](#)
- [Twelve Tips For Using Ancestry ThruLines](#)
- [Episode 337 – What's There? Fisher Gets His “Big Reveal” On DNA From Family Envelopes / Melanie McComb On Researching Minister Ancestors](#)
- [Mayflower II Opens to Visitors](#)
- [The Future of DNA Testing: A Genealogy of Everyone](#)
- [Using Proof by Contradiction to Focus Your Research](#)
- [Why I Do Genealogy: A Personal Manifesto](#)
- [AncestryDNA, Longest Shared Segment and Timber](#)
- [More on Dower](#)
- [When Genealogy is Like Knitting](#)
- [What Standing in Line for \(The Best!\) Cupcake Ever Taught Me About Genealogy Research](#)
- [6 Places To Look For FAN Club Members](#)
- [Blinded By a Pedigree Chart](#)
- [Quarantine Advice: Enjoy a Genealogy Conference from Home](#)
- [Walking the Genealogy Talk](#)

Spotlight on Mary Pentico Nelson by Patricia Diane Godinez **CVGS Member and Lover of Country & Western Music**



Mary was born at her Grandma Jipp's home in Ogden, Iowa. Her parents were Arthur Harold Pentico and Louise Erna Caroline Jipp. She was the start of the second generation to be born in Iowa and the oldest. She was followed by James, Fred, and Shirley. Mary lives with her brother Fred and sister-in-law, Susi Pentico. Mary says she lived on a farm in Iowa and went to a country school through 8th grade. Her high school was in Woodward, Iowa.

Mary came to California in 1962 and worked in various factories. While living in Riverside, she joined the Riverside Genealogical Society where she was active from 1985 until moving to South San Diego. Besides belonging to the Chula Vista Genealogical

Society since 2012, Mary was a member of the Germany Genealogy Club whose meetings were in the Claremont College Auditorium. She was a member in the past of the American /Schleswig-Holstein Society in Walcott, Iowa. On the maternal side of Mary's family, her roots are, for the most part, in Germany and Prussia.

On the paternal side, a quick look shows the states of Iowa, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, New York, and Tennessee. Her paternal ties go back to John Heard 1610-1689 and Elizabeth Hull 1628-1706. This couple, who lived in Massachusetts, had a reported 15 children. Their oldest son, Benjamin Heard, is the ancestor of Mary. A much younger sister, Dorcas Heard, is the ancestor-in-law to Patricia Diane Godinez. This new fact came to light in August 2020!

There is a note in FamilySearch.org about Elizabeth Hull. In "The Hull Family in America" it is noted that Elizabeth saved the life of a young Indian boy by concealing him during an unprovoked and cruel massacre of Indians by Whites in 1676. Twelve years later, it is said that she was captured by Indians and the same boy helped her to escape unharmed. Elizabeth's father, Rev. Joseph Hull, led an expedition of more than 100 followers to the Massachusetts Bay Colony where he founded the Cape Cod community of Barnstable. The year was 1635. Much more is written in his Life Sketch.

This seems to be a pretty sturdy family as their lineage goes back past Richard Hull 1515-1587, to John Hill (note the name change) who is listed being born in 1435 in England and married to Cecily Sourton born 1436 in Preston, Somerset, England. All these facts are now available, but early on, when Mary started her family tree, it was found with much hard work of interviewing relatives, writing letters, and researching in libraries.

Mary, with the help of Susi Pentico, has sent this information for anyone who might be related: Phillip Jacob Pentico/ Benighoff b. 1740 married Elizabeth Margaret Schwarn 1752-1854. Their son Johann Phillip Pentico/Beninghoff born 1770 in Montgomery Co., PA lived to 26 Sept 1839. His wife was Catherine Miller who was born in Union Co., PA and died there in 1848. Another Philip Jacob born 30 Jan 1740 in Bisheim, Rhineland, Pfalz, Germany, died in New Tripoli, Lynn Township, Lehigh Co., PA. His wife was Elizabeth M. who was from Montgomery Co., PA and died before 1854 in Pennsylvania. Does this ring a bell with anyone? Maybe just the PA stuff!

Upcoming Family Tree Webinars

These webinars are sponsored by Legacy Family Tree, and are FREE to watch live, and are FREE for a week after the live event. You must register to view them live at www.familytreewebinars.com. A membership of \$49.95 per year enables the member to view any of the over 1,300 webinars at any time.

- Tuesday, 8 September, 11 a.m.: [New Searching Experience at MyHeritage](#), by Dana Drutman.
- Wednesday, 9 September, 5 p.m.: [Cyndi's List In Practice](#), by Cyndi Ingle.
- Tuesday, 15 September, 5 p.m.: [Reconstructing the Murphy Family Using DNA & Documentary Evidence](#), by Melissa A. Johnson
- Friday, 18 September, 11 a.m.: [Your DNA questions answered live with Diahn](#), by Diahn Southard

- Wednesday, 23 September, 11 a.m.: [Introduction to VPNs](#), by Thomas MacEntee
- Wednesday, 30 September, 11 a.m.: [5 Ways to find your Family in Southern Manuscript Collections](#), by J. Mark Lowe
- Tuesday, 6 October, 6 p.m.: [Advanced DNA Techniques: Deductive Chromosome Mapping](#), by Blaine Bettinger
- Wednesday, 7 October, 11 a.m.: [Wringing Every Drop out of Y DNA](#), by Roberta Estes

- Thursday, 8 October, 9 a.m.: [From Generation to Generation: An Updated Look at Kinship Determination](#), by Judy G. Russell
- Thursday, 8 October, 10:15 a.m.: [Geo-Genealogy as a Problem-Solving Tool: The Case of a 19th-Century Female Teenage Immigrant](#), by J.H. Fonkert
- Thursday, 8 October, 11:30 a.m.: [Spanning 150 Years of Record Loss: A Methodological Approach to Identifying Parents in Sweden](#), by Jill Morelli

Free Access to MyHeritage Photo Enhancer and MyHeritage In Color™

MyHeritage is unlocking both of their popular photo tools — [MyHeritage Photo Enhancer](#) and [MyHeritage In Color™](#) — for a whole month, until September 10, 2020.

Normally, these features can be used by non-subscribers on up to 10 photos each, while users with a Complete plan enjoy unlimited use. But now, for a whole month, anyone can enhance and colorize as many photos as they'd like for free!

This continues their tradition of giving back to the community. With so many people currently confined to their home and doing their best to stay safe and healthy — they're giving everyone a fun way to pass the time and enjoy genealogy!

Using these tools, you can get to know your ancestors in a whole new way. Your old, faded, black and white family photos will come to life, in full color and sharp focus — making them look almost as though they were taken yesterday. They invite you to pull out your family photo albums today and join in the fun.

See Randy's blog post [Checking Out the MyHeritage Enhanced Photo Feature](#) for his own enhancing experiences.

See Randy's blog posts [Colorizing My Black and White Family Photos Using MyHeritage In Color™](#) and [More of my MyHeritage InColor Photos](#) for his own colorizing experiences.

August 26th Program Review

Hal Bookbinder provided the CVGS general Meeting program on Wednesday, 26 August to 24 attendees. Hal's presentation was "'Born in St. Louis, Naturalized in Newark, Why?'" In his talk, he described how his grandmother, Sarah Sacharow, was an American citizen by birth in 1895 in St. Louis to immigrant parents, but lost her citizenship when she married Edward Horowitz, who was born in Bessarabia (now Moldova) in 1917. The law at the time of her marriage was that the wife lost her U.S. citizenship if she married a foreign person who was not a U.S. citizen. That law was changed in 1931 and Sarah applied to be naturalized soon after.

Most of Hal's presentation was about the immigration laws, naturalization laws, citizenship and ports of entry. He discussed other paths to citizenship, quotas, numbers of immigrants and naturalized citizens, the naturalization process and myths about Ellis Island. His advice was "If you order a naturalization file, be sure to order the 'full file.'" The National Archives are raising the price of many files on 1 October.

His summary slide recommended this about seeking naturalization records:

- Get all of the naturalization records that you can. They provide a wealth of information.
- If you can't find one for your ancestor, look for records of their siblings or close relatives.
- Was it pre-1906? Don't despair, Check the WPA indices. Check at county courthouses and at local and state archives.
- If your ancestor was not naturalized, perhaps they started the process and didn't finish it. Check the census records for "Pa" meaning "papers filed."
- Were your ancestors aliens at the outbreak of World War I or II? Alien registrations occurred in 1917-18 and in 1940 and there may be files available from the USCIS, but the price is going up on 1 October.

All in all, this was an interesting and informative talk about immigration and naturalization laws and records highlighted by Hal's grandmother's challenges.

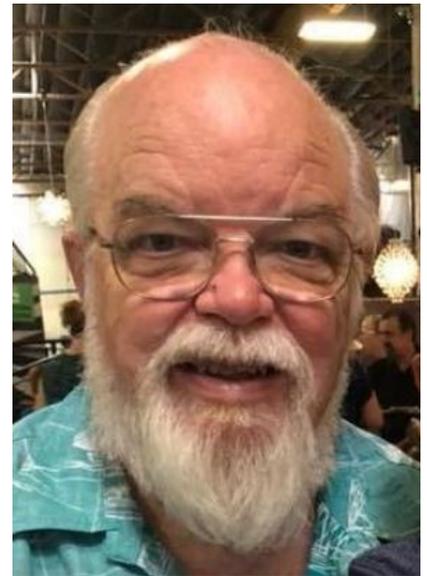
Quotes to Ponder

- *Nobody can do for grandchildren what grandparents can do. Grandparents sort of sprinkle stardust over the lives of little children.* ~ Alex Haley
- *Everybody needs to have access both to grandparents and grandchildren in order to be a full human being.* ~ Margaret Mead
- *A grandparent is a little bit parent, a little bit teacher, and a little bit best friend.* ~ Unknown
- *Grandparents are there to help the child get into mischief they haven't thought of yet.* ~ Gene Perret
- *You really do not understand something unless you can explain it to your grandmother.* ~ Albert Einstein
- *Grandfathers are just antique little boys.* ~ Unknown
- *If God had intended us to follow recipes, he wouldn't have given us grandmothers.* ~ Linda Henley
- *Because (grandparents) are usually free to love and guide and befriend the young without having to take daily responsibility for them, they can often reach out past pride and fear of failure and close the space between generations.* ~ Jimmy Carter

August 12th Research Group Review

The August 12th Research Group meeting on Zoom had 19 in attendance. In the first hour, Randy discussed:

- Ancestry.com Buyout by Blackstone – see commentary at <https://www.geneamusings.com/2020/08/blackstone-to-acquire-ancestry-my.html>
- MyHeritage Improves their Search Engine - see commentary at <https://www.geneamusings.com/2020/08/myheritage-announced-they-redesigned.html>
- Passing on my Genealogy Work - see my plans at <https://www.geneamusings.com/2020/07/dear-randy-how-do-you-plan-to-pass-on.html> and https://www.geneamusings.com/2020/07/dear-randy-how-do-you-plan-to-pass-on_26.html
- MyHeritage Photo Enhancer/Colorizer – is free to access until 10 September – see <https://www.geneamusings.com/2020/08/free-access-to-myheritage-photo.html>



In the second hour, the attendees shared some of their genealogy research activities over the past month.

The next Research Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 9 September at 12 noon in a Zoom online video conference hosted by Randy Seaver. An invitation to CVGS members will go out on 7 September.

August 19th DNA Interest Group Review

The August 19th DNA interest Group meeting on Zoom had 14 in attendance. In the first hour, Randy discussed:

- AncestryDNA changed the number of matching segments and added the length of the longest segment to the list of DNA matches as promised. Some of the “longest segments” are longer than the total shared cM values, and the experts say this is because the longest segment is found before the apply the “Timber” algorithm to the shared DNA to filter out very common DNA segments,
- AncestryDNA will drop the 6.0 to 7.9 cM matches from the list by the end of August, but will save matches that have notes, a Group designation or the user had messaged the match. This happened on 31 August.
- Genetic Affairs has added an AutoSegment feature to their cluster program for MyHeritageDNA, FamilyTreeDNA, 23andMe and GEDmatch that uses spreadsheets to obtain the DNA segments you share with your matches. See <https://members.geneticaffairs.com/autosegment> for details.
- Scott Fisher of Extreme Genes submitted four envelopes for DNA analysis of the spit on the envelopes. He shared the results on his radio show (see the list of genealogy related posts).

In the second hour, the attendees shared some of their DNA-related activities.

The next DNA Interest Group meeting will be on Wednesday, 16 September at 12 noon in a Zoom online video conference hosted by Randy Seaver. An invitation to CVGS members will go out on 14 September.

Welcome New Members

Current Membership (as of 9/1): 72

New Members:
Colin Whitney

Karyn's Caring Corner

Cards were sent to:

Meeting Host Volunteers

TBD

We Need a Hospitality Chair!
Please volunteer!

Telephone Tree Volunteers

Ana Castro
Carrie Holleron
Carole Sobke

CVGS Society Officers

President:	Karen Smith
First Vice-President, Programs	Virginia Taylor
Second Vice-President, Membership	Carrie Holleron
Treasurer	Karen Polk
Secretary	Ana Castro

Committee Chairs

Education	Susi Pentico
Historian	Susan Zimmer
Hospitality	Open
Librarian	Open
Newsletter Editor	Randy Seaver
Research Group/DNA Group/Queries	Randy Seaver
Ways and Means	Carole Sobke
Webmaster	Gary Brock

San Diego Genealogy Events

User Groups, Classes and Program
Meetings on Zoom – see
www.casdgs.org

FREE Fall Seminar

Saturday, 19 September, 9 a.m.

Speaker: **Tom Jones, PhD, CG** on
"Combining Sources to Identify an Immigrant
Origin and Arrival Record"
"Building a Credible Lineage, Despite Missing
Information, Conflicting and Incorrect
Records, and Finding Undocumented
Publications"
"Overcoming Research Barriers: A Case
Study"
"Finding 'Unfindable' Ancestors"

FREE!!!

Register at <https://casdgs.org/event-3582557>

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Upcoming Conferences

RootsTech Connect 2021

25 - 27 February 2021

Virtual – Worldwide – FREE

Registration:

<https://www.rootstech.org/?lang=eng>

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GENEALOGY DAYS IN CHULA VISTA

- **Wednesday, September 9, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at Zoom video meeting
- **Wednesday, September 16, 12 noon – DNA Interest Group Meeting**, at Zoom video meeting
- **Wednesday, September 30, 12 noon – General Meeting: Colin Whitney on “Discovering the Nicholas Family In the British Isles”** at Zoom video meeting
- **Wednesday, October 14, 12 noon – Research Group Meeting**, at Zoom video meeting
- **Wednesday, October 21, 12 noon – DNA Interest Group Meeting**, at Zoom video meeting
- **Wednesday, October 28, 12 noon – General Meeting: Marshall Clow on “Fleshing Out an Obituary,” “Building a FAN Club,” and “Look at the Originals”** at Zoom video meeting

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All CVGS Program Meetings are held in online Zoom video meetings unless otherwise noted.
Contact Virginia Taylor (irishdoll@cox.net) for program details.

Stay up-to-date on CVGS Activities

Visit the CVGS Website: <https://www.cvgenealogy.org>

Visit the Chula Vista Genealogy Cafe blog: <http://CVGenCafe.blogspot.com>

The Board Meeting minutes and General Meeting minutes are now posted on the CVGS website. Check them out at <https://cvgenealogy.org> on the “Members” tab.

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How Far Back Have You Traced Your Ancestry? It Depends! by Randy Seaver

I am asked this question several times a month when I tell someone that I do genealogy research. My first response is "Adam" and they say "You're kidding, right?" So then I say "Adam Mott of Providence, Rhode Island in the 1640s.

My second response is usually "I have 14 ancestors who were on the Mayflower" in 1620. They almost always accept that.

Sometimes they ask "Are you related to British royalty?" And I answer, "The online family trees say I am." The grandkids are usually impressed by that and want to know their relationships.

But how far back is that? The book *The Royal Descents of 600 Immigrants to the American Colonies of the United States* by Gary Boyd Roberts indicates that I have lines back to Edward III of England through Anne (Dudley) Bradstreet; to Edward I of England through Olive (Welby) Farwell; to Henry III of England through Mary (Gye) Maverick. And through them back to Charlemagne, Alfred the Great, and William the Conqueror. But that's only 30 generations back to Charlemagne.

Can anyone get further back? I found that I was related to Cleopatra, perhaps my 58th great-grandmother, on Geni.com some time ago. Yes, Cleopatra, that Cleopatra. But that was four years ago. The chart has changed on Geni.com now, so now I am Cleopatra's "31st great aunt's husband's 16th great uncle's wife's great grandmother's fiancé's mother" according to Geni.com. "No blood relationship" it says. How disappointing.

Trying someone a bit more recent - how about Attila the Hun (406-453)? Five years ago, Geni.com said I was his 43rd great-grandchild. Now it says he is "your 34th great grandfather's fiancée's third great grandfather's wife's father's wife's daughter's fiancé." Again, "No blood relationship." I guess I should be glad about that.

Oh well. There must be someone famous that I am related to. What about "Superman?" Ah, Christopher Reeve is my 11th cousin, with common ancestors of Thomas Dudley and Dorothy Yorke! My line from Thomas Dudley is correct as far as I know, but I don't know about Christopher's line. The "super genes" from Thomas Dudley have probably petered out though.



I have added most of my known ancestry to Geni.com and connected them to existing profiles in Geni.com. The information before 1600 CE is not always correct, or is changed on occasion. But they have pretty accurate information for the gateway ancestors who came to colonial North America, and the Royal and noble lines for those 600 gateway ancestors back to the medieval time.