

Bartholomew Heath

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Bartholomew Heath is the patriarch of our Heath ancestors in Colonial America. We suggest you refer to the Jacob Heath ancestor chart provided with our last issue of the newsletter, where we show the ahentafel number , as related to Jacob Heath, as #32. Bartholomew is the g-g-g-grandfather of Jacob Heath.¹

Bartholomew emigrated from England on the ship "Lyon"² that sailed from London 22 June 1632. Bartholomew was not listed on the passenger list as he would have only been 17.³

Initially Bartholomew was in Roxbury, Massachusetts and settled in Haverhill about 1642. 1642 being about the first reference where he was found to be in Haverhill⁴. Haverhill at this time was a virtual wilderness located about 33 miles north of Boston.⁵ Haverhill was considered a frontier town for nearly 70 years. The township as originally purchased from

Indians was 14 miles in length. It now is approximately 3 miles in breadth by 9 miles long. Haverhill was the 30th town settled with in modern day limits of Massachusetts and 49th in New England.

The names of Bartholomew's parents are not known but are believed to be John and Alis(Bartholomew) Heath⁶. Bartholomew was possibly from Nazeing, Essex County, England about twenty miles north of London. The Heath name and others are carefully embalmed in the records of the Nazeing Parish Church⁷.

Bartholomew was married in Haverhill ca 1640-1642. He married Hannah Moyce daughter of Joseph and Hannah (Folcord). The children of Bartholomew and Hannah were John, Joseph, Joshua, Hannah, Josiah, Elizabeth, Benjamin, and Elizabeth.

Only three of Bartholomew's children lived to adult age and married. Bartholomew's only heirs were his sons John and Josiah. Son Joseph died shortly after marriage [killed by Indians - 1 December 1672] , leaving only one son Joseph. Our Josiah⁸ was called "Josias" by his father and Uncle John. Bartholomew by the way was referred to in several references as "Bart" or Bartholl"

Activities in Haverhill

Bartholomew was prominent in Haverhill and is mentioned many times in the Haverhill records and history. This is probably not all that unusual for the

¹ great-great-great grandfather

² The Ship "Lyon" was famous in the history of early immigration to Massachusetts. Her master was equally noted for his skillful seamanship and his sympathy with the policy of the Puritan leaders. In 1630, 1631, and 1632 she made four voyages hither in quick succession under his command with regularity and safety. On one of the trips saved the new settlement from starvation and death by her timely arrival with provisions and anti-scorbutics. [Taken from Appendix C of "The Winthrop Fleet of 1630" by Charles E. Banks 1931.]

³ Children who had not reached the age of majority and women were "non-entities" [editor's description] at that time and thus were not counted.

⁴ The *Compendium of American Genealogy*, Volume 7, page 373.

⁵ George W. Chase, *The History of Haverhill*"

⁶ Giorgie, Valerie Dyer, *Bartholomew Heath of Haverhill*, Unconfirmed

⁷ Ibid

⁸ Josiah Heath No. 16 on Jacob Heaths ancestor chart.

Colonial Period because all citizens were expected to participate. We might liken the communities of that period as a commune all working together. This was quite common. For example each spring a committee would review the fields and determine when, what, and where plantings would occur. In the year 1651, Bart Heath was listed as one of the members of this committee.⁹ If the town need a sawmill the location was determined and steps taken to achieve this. Bartholomew was mention on one occasion as entering into an agreement for obtaining land and the upgrade of an existing mill and if insufficient than to build another. This agreement was signed with the town on November 4, 1665¹⁰

Another incident of note was on January 25 1675/6 wherein Bartholomew as an accommodation lot proprietor of Haverhill was one of several signers objecting to the construction of cottages on the Haverhill common since the year 1660 by those persons not entitled. Bartholomew's son Josiah Heath, our ancestor, had built a cottage on the common and as a result Josiah forfeited his privileges.¹¹

The family remained in Haverhill until the migration of John Heath grandson of Bartholomew immigrated to New Hampshire, believed to have occurred about 1717/1718.¹² John³ (John², Bartholomew¹). This grandson John should not be confused with the John Heath of whom most of our readership are descended. This latter John would be shown as John³ (Josiah², Bartholomew¹). These Johns being first cousins.

Our John Heath married Hannah Haynes (Haines) in Norwich¹³, New London

County, Connecticut 16 Dec 1697. Thirteen of their recorded children were born in Haverhill, MA. The youngest child Joseph was not born in Haverhill. Birthplace unknown. Thomas⁴ (John³, Josiah², Bartholomew¹) Heath married in Preston, New London County, Connecticut. Reviewing information related to the siblings of Thomas we find that several married in or about the same location in Connecticut. We surmise from this information that the family moved to the area of the birthplace of John's wife Hannah Haynes¹⁴

In 1650 there were forty-three freeman in town, nineteen of whom had taken the "*Oath of fidelity*".¹⁵ Freeman, Freeman's Oath or Oath of Fidelity, and Freeholder - a man might be a freeholder and not a freeman and vice versa. A freeman was one who had taken the freeman's oath. A freeholder was one who, either by grant, purchase, or inheritance, was entitled to share in all the common and undivided lands.

Per dictionary

free·man, n. [pl. freemen] 1. a person not in slavery or bondage 2. a citizen; person who has all civil and political rights in a city or state.

free·hold·er, n. a possessor of a freehold.

free·hold, n. The holding of a piece of land, an office, etc. for life or with the right to pass it in this way.

frid·el·ity, n. a faithful devotion to duty or to ones obligations or vows; loyalty.

At this time no one was allowed to vote in the nomination of magistrates and choice of deputies (representatives) unless he had taken the "freeman's oath" or "oath of fidelity"¹⁶ A man might be a voter in town affairs, and yet neither be a freeholder nor a freeman. Up until about 1650 the area was referred to as the Plantation of Haverhill, and it was than that it become a town. Whether operating as a Plantation or town the freeman and freeholders were expected to take part in the affairs of

⁹ Chase, George W., *History of Haverhill* ", page 74

¹⁰ Ibid, page 100

¹¹ Ibid & Haverhill Town Records 1:112.

¹² Giorgie, Valerie Dyer, *Bartholomew Heath of Haverhill*, page 12

¹³ Carliton A. Finch, *The Haynes Family (1600-1994)*, page 19

¹⁴ Haynes or Haines. Your editor is using the standardized spelling for the family. Many variations exist. See The Four Drive, Vol I, No. 9 page 6 where we discussed the Haynes name.

¹⁵ Ibid Chase, page 72

¹⁶ Ibid Chase, page 115

Introducing -**Marilyn Bannister²² & Family²³**

My son Bob (Robert) attended Humber College (Toronto) in the Radio Broadcasting course. However, just when he graduated all stations were "downsizing" so he has been unable to find work in this field. He is presently managing a store in Hanover Ontario (about 50 miles south of here) and, because we have had such a mild winter, commutes back and forth each day. This sounds like a horrendous drive, but it is on county roads which are not heavily traveled. It takes him about 45 minutes each way.

My son Scott is attending Humber College (Toronto) in the Child and Youth Worker program. He will graduate this spring.

Both boys have been very involved in Scouting, and have been leaders as well. They have also both worked at the Salvation Army Camp for inner city kids in Waymart Pennsylvania which is near Scranton. Scott has inquired about working at the Salvation Army Camp in North Carolina this summer, so if he works there, I just may take a trip down that way this summer. If I am anywhere near you I will look you up.

I work as church secretary at the Presbyterian Church in Warton Ontario. I only work two days a week, but I have a feeling this is soon to be changed to three days a week, as I am always so busy. I sing in the Warton Community Choir, and I am now learning how to play the handbells.

Marilyn Bannister (February 1998)

VITAL RECORDS**Births:**

Blake Alexander Bentz (b. 429 Oct 1997) in Grand Rapids Michigan, son born to Larry J. Bentz Jr. and Janet B. Bentz

²² This information was included in an e-mail recently received from Marilyn and included in The Four Drive as I know many of the Fitch descendants were acquainted with Robert Bannisters

²³ Marilyn Bannister nee Cuthbert widow of Frederick Allan Bannister (b. 25 Mar 1940 - d. 11 Aug 1992). Frederick son of Robert Bannister. Frederick (Robert, Samuel, William) Bannister

Marriages

Lucille Ann Snell nee Chinnery and William George Rogers, Jr., married 31 January 1998 in Falls Church, Virginia.

Deaths

Miss Martha Bannister passed away on December 16th, 1997 from the New Horizons Retirement Home in Warton Ontario. She was born 3 Oct. 1910, the youngest daughter of Samuel Bannister and Agnes Naomi Gates and great-granddaughter of Richard Lano and Martha Weston Fudge. She had been a school teacher and was a life long member and very involved in St. Andrew's United Church at Hepworth. Her funeral was conducted by the Rev. Jack Fearnall of the Hepworth United Church at the Downs and Son Funeral Home, 2:00 P.M. on December 19th. Spring internment in Zion Cemetery, Amabel Township, Bruce County, Ontario. (just outside of Hepworth)

Marvin Rotman

Marvin Rotman (b. 6 Dec 1918) passed away in Holland, MI, the first part of March, Exact date not known. Marvin married Bernice Evelyn Fitch 5 Apr 1942 and is survived by four sons and numerous grandchildren

DEFINITIONS

We commonly use words assuming that others are familiar with their meaning. It has been suggested we provide definitions as appropriate.

b. Common genealogy designation for birth, may be used interchangeably for birthdate and birthplace, though the following are also used.

bd. Birthdate - usually given as day/mon/year - in the following format

dd mmm yyyy/y where dd meaning digits one or two of the date; mmm as three letters, where it may be all capitalize or just the first. I usually use this format 21 Mar 1929 being my birthdate. The optional /y being added for Jan, Feb, Mar in pre- 1752 dates.²⁴

²⁴ See articles on Julian and Gregorian Calendars in issues number Four drive, Volume I, #9 and Vol II, No. 1.

bp. Place of Birth. Remembering we are always interested in the **WHO** [individuals name], **WHAT** [the event], **WHEN** [date], **WHERE** [place], **WHY** [footnotes and sources] Note though we have recently received some information from England, wherein they use the abbreviation "bp" to denote baptism. It was quite easy to discern this because of the context of its use.

dy or **d.y.**, died young

em·i·grate, v.i. [emigrated, emigrating] to leave one country or region to settle in another.; opposed to immigrate.

immigrate, v.i. [immigrated, immigrating] to come into a new country or region, environment in order to settle there; opposed to emigrate.

issue, n. offspring, a child or children; to be descended; be born.

Twp. Township. There are others, this being the most common. What we call a township now in early times may have been referred to as "town" In some localities it still is.

Recent Acquisitions.

Your recent acquisitions of family history should be recorded here. Let us know what important piece of information you have recently found and or received from someone.

Received from Nicholas J. Royal

Your editor, as result of recent membership announcement in "*The Greenwood Tree*" - newsletter for The Sommersett and Dorset Family History Society has received confirmation of the marriage of Richard Lano and Martha Weston Fudge, her mother Martha Weston and four additional ancestor generations for the latter Martha Weston Weston. Mr. Royal has titled this branch of the tree "The Weymouth Line" of the Descendants of Henry Weston (b. 1651) of Poole England. Mr. Royal is a descendant of this same Henry Weston but braches off to what he has designated as "The Minor Weston Line"

Information included are many of the siblings of Henry's descendants. Richard Lano + Martha Weston Fudge⁶ (Martha Weston⁵, Samuel⁴, Henry³, Henry², Henry¹)

Received from Ken Andrew

Mr. Andrew is a volunteer for the Sommersett & Dorset Family History Society and takes care of the marriage index that the society has generated. From these records we now have confirmation of the marriage of Richard Lano and Martha Weston. Richard Lano was a widower when he married Martha. m. 13 July 1836 at St. Mary, Melcombe Regis We also have marriage information for Richard's father also named Richard Lano, widower and his marriage to Elizabeth Gibbs, m. 18 Nov 1803 at Portland. Elizabeth, Richard's mother was a widow when she married Richard Lano Sr. We do not know whether this is her married name or maiden name. Her first husband was a sea captain.

Also received from Mr. Andrew was the marriage for Robert Fudge and Martha Weston. m. 28 April 1813 at St. Mary, Melcombe Regis, Dorset²⁵ A subsequent letter from My Andrew has provided confirmation of the parents of Martha Weston Fudge. Martha was baptized at St. Mary's Church, Melcombe Regis on 29 May 1816. The daughter of Robert Fudge of Melcombe Regis and his wife Martha. The entry also records her birth as either 1 or 7 September 1815. The doubt being due to poor handwriting.

The Journals of Charles Wesley Fitch Sr.

Transcriptions have been completed for 1900 and 1908. I have on had the following diaries to be transcribed: Diary's for 1902, 1904(part of year), 1905-1906, 1944-1947, 1949, 1950 and 1955, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960.

Copies of these journals can be made available via e-mail. Those desiring copies should advise editor the type of computer and word processor they use. Your editor uses a Macintosh G-3 and has capability to convert his files to IBM compatible. This conversion than retains the formatting used by the transcriber.

Hard copies are also available for reimbursement of photocopy and postage cost. I have copies of the 1900 & 1908 available. Unfortunately I made more photocopies than what demand has been. To keep costs to a minimum requests will have to be made in advance of printing for future copies.

²⁵ We first reported on the possiblity of This family being the parents of Martha Weston Fudge in The Four Drive, Volume I, No. 4, page 4. At that time it was pure supposition of this possiblity.

SURFING INTERNET

Where have you been surfing? Have you found any exciting sites?

Web Page

Cyndi's list of Genealogical Sites has changed its URL to:

<http://www.CyndisList.com/>

We reported on this site in Vol I, No 8. Just an easier URL to use, offers the same easy access to 100's of other sites. Also try the web page of a good friend of ours.

<http://www.InfoMagic.COM/~ernie/>

Besides offering some good information on his site it too has links to other great sites. One great site is "Ifoundit". 'Try it - you will like it'

Want another nice site? Not a genealogy site but of interest to family. Try this one:

<http://members.wbs.net/homepages/p/a/m/pamm ytc.html>

[Can't fit on one line. If you have trouble send me a msg and I will send it back so all you have to do is click on it.]

NEW NEW NEW

e-mail addresses

Donald Chinnery

wu9t@aol.com

The above address is revised from the address reported in last issue of The Four Drive

Joyce Burchett

ADDRESSES REMOVED FOR THIS PDF FILE

Introduction to Tiny Tafels

Tiny Tafel's are used on the internet. Our last issue of The Four Drive introduced you to "ahentafels" , the ancestor chart. Despite the similarity in the two names the only relationship between the two is they are both designed to communicate information to others. They both come from German - "ahentafels" meaning ancestor chart and "tafel" meaning table. As we started to prepare this article on tiny tafels, we realized that we would be talking yet about another topic, the "Soundex". Because the *tiny tafel* has as its first entry the soundex code for the surname you are interested in. Since the Soundex is probably as new to most of our readership as ahentafels and tiny tafels , before we can discuss tiny tafels we must first introduce you to The Soundex. Therefore elsewhere in this issue of the Four Drive we will introduce you to The Soundex, in the meantime we will leave

"tiny tafels" hanging with your wonderment as to what they are.

Like a GEDCOM²⁶, a tiny tafel is a way of expressing what data you have to share. Unlike GEDCOM its primary use is not to exchange that data but to alert people to its existence and show how to reach you to exchange data.****

A short course in soundex

Genealogists usually first become familiar with the soundex during their research of the Federal Population Census. The federal government created statewide indexes for the 1880 census to households with children aged 10 or under.

Subsequent censuses included all households. These are "soundex" (phonetic) indexes that group names together by how they sound rather than how they are spelled. Subsequently this coding method has been used for other applications²⁷. Our interest is as it relates to genealogy. The coding system is quite simple and with a little practice one can code the name quite easily. Some genealogy computer programs determine the code. The value of the soundex system can be readily appreciated as we consider your editor's surname - Chinnery. Early research in England has found this surname spelled in these additional ways - Chenery, Chennery, Cheney. So lets learn how to code this name.

The code is of the form, "ADDD" , where "A" represents a letter followed by three numerical digits, 0 .. 9.

The letter in case of Chinnery and its variants would be "C". The numbers are determined by utilizing the following guide.

²⁶ What is GEDCOM?. See The Four Drive, Vol I, No. 7, page 3

²⁷ Your editor has a friend that worked for the Social Security Administration. An avid genealogist, Nancy learned the soundex during her family research and successfully adapted the soundex for keeping track of social security records.

Only key letters are coded, some of the common letters are not coded. Vowels fall in this category.

a, e, i, o, u, y, w, h are NOT coded
first letter of the surname is not coded.

As already shown this first letter becomes the very first part of our code.

Key Letters would be coded with the applicable digit from this table.

1	b, p, f, v
2	c, s, k, g, j, i, q, x, z
3	d, t
4	l
5	m, n
6	r

When two "key" letters or equivalents appear together, or one letter, or an equivalent letter immediately following an equivalent the two are coded as one letter. i.e. the "nn" in Chinnery are coded as just one "n". Remember too it's not just identical letters that only get counted once. Suppose your name had "mn" ; this would only be counted as a "5"; or SK in ski would be counted as a "2".

Chinnery

C 5 6 I have left spaces so you can see what letters were not tagged. The code needs three digits so a "0" is assigned to fill out the code giving us C560. Thus the code for Chinnery is C560. Now how does this compare with the code for Chenery. Starting with "C" for beginning of last name we find that h and e do not count. We now assign 5 to the "n"; e does not count pick up 6 for the "r" skipping the "y" and adding a "0" to fill out the code , giving us the code of C560. What's happened? Here we have two names that are spelled differently ending up with the same C560 code. That is exactly what the soundex is suppose to do. Pronouncing both of the names will sound almost alike. Now lets try it for Cheney; start with C; skip "h" and "e" ; pick up 5 for "n" ; "e" and "y" do not count; So we have C5-- ; But, since the numerical part of the code must have three digits we assign 00

ending with C500. So we have slightly different names with A code close but not the same.

Scanning listings of soundex codes, we would come across C500 prior to getting to the C560, so it is quite easy to take a quick look at the Cheney names. In the case of census indexes, listings are than alphabetized within a soundex code according to the first name of the individual (heads of household only).

So now practice with your name. Assign the first letter of your last name, skip over any letters in the "not" coded list and assign the applicable digit for the letter appearing in the Key Letter Table. Remembering that doubles or two letters side by side from same row in table are only counted as one letter. Fill out the code by adding zeros so you have an "ANNN" code for your last name. Do this before next issue and in our next issue of The Four Drive we will present a listing of soundex codes for surnames of our subscribers and some of our common ancestors. ****

RENEWAL SURVEY SUMMARY

Our mailing of The Four Drive, Vol. 1, No. 9 included a subscription renewal form and a survey questionnaire. Of the survey forms returned the answers were what one would generally expect regarding renewal. If they wanted the subscription renewed they replied.

Those that did not reply were removed from the mailing list. We received 17 renewal forms plus two letters requesting renewal. Our newsletter survey had five questions.

1. Do you usually read every issue within a short time after receipt? Ans. 17 Yes

2. How many household members also read the newsletter ? [This would be in addition to addressee] - Ans 21.

3. Have you shared or made copies for others...? 17 Yes.

Referrals: 7 names were given as referrals and sample copies were mailed with yellow renewal form. One yellow and one letter requesting a subscription were received in reply. One subscriber places her copy in the Macomb County Library [MI], while another is utilized by the SKP Genies Group for articles and information.

4. Has the news letter help to increase your interest in family genealogical history? Yes -14; No-0; Max-2; Blank-1; "Max" meaning their interest in genealogy was already at a maximum level.

5. Are you interested in assisting in a common research areas? Yes - 2; N - 4; Later - 4; Blank - 7; . Under "No" one was marked already at max level.

One of our newsletter subscribers is in Canada and her copy did not get mailed until this year because of the Canadian Mail strike. So her responses are not included in this summary. Marilyn has been a good resource and supplements our information on Lanos, Gates, and Bannisters.

I appreciate all of the responses. While we are disappointed in the renewal default rate, that was the purpose of the form request. I was concerned that the newsletter might end up not getting used or appreciated.

I would like to respond to another question not included in the survey. Has it helped to bring cousins closer together. I feel that it has. Not only have we found several living cousins²⁸, we have cousins corresponding with each other that never did before. And I believe these were covered in the original goals of the newsletter.

Thank you every one for taking the time to respond. And especially thank you for some of the nice comments received.***

Reviewed by Don Chinnery

Don has recently reviewed the following books:

William Hyslop Fuller, *Fuller, Genalogies, Vol I, Edward Fuller Family*,. 1908. The first of three volumes covering the Fuller Family. While written as Edward Fuller and his descendants the book begins with a forward that includes the will of Robert Fuller of Redenhall. The father of Edward Fuller Include are pictures of the Redenhall Church, Fuller Coat of arms And a review of the Mayflower Compact. This reference overlooks Edward's son Matthew from whom we are descended. Edward brought his son Samuel on the Mayflower, Matthew stayed behind and didn't come until later.

William Hyslop Fuller, *Fuller, Genalogies, Vol III, Genealogy of some of the descendants of Captain Matthew Fuller* 1914 This volume picks up Matthew Fuller, born in England and died Aug 1678 in Barnstable, MA. The will of Maatthew is included. Information relating to four generations referencing a daughter Waitstill of the fourth generation and her marriage to Thomas Heath. So we have information relating to the following generations: Waitstill (Samuel, Samuel, Matthew)

²⁸ "Cousins", I take the easy way out here. Anyone who has a common ancestor I call cousins. Rather than get involved trying to figure out exact defination of the relative.

Wm Shurtlett, John Atwood of Plymouth, Mass. original pub 1912 LCCCN 72-86089. This reference is excerpt from genealogical work by the author relating to his Shurtlett ancestry. It begins with a descendency chart as related to the English ancestry of his family picking up with marriage into the Wood family. Using this begining we find that the first generation discussed was:

I. John Wood, b in England and is known to have been living in Surrey England in 1525. His will was proved March 1531.

II. John (Hewson) Wood b 1498/99 and died 1558.

III. Nicholas Wood, b. abt 1530 and d. 10 May 1582

IV. John Wood [Atwood] b. 4 Feb 1582 and his 5 sons.

1. Harmon
2. John***
3. Stephen
4. Henry
5. William

The book being about John Atwood [The 2nd son of generation IV shown above] becomes #1 in the referencing. Our interest followed through the 2nd and 3rd generations and their marriages to Mercy Leonard (Abigail, John) and her marriage to Richard Adams and their children. No further decendants shown for Mercy/Richard. The Balance of the book was essentially devoted to the line as descended from Nathaniel² (John¹). These additional lines would be of value for those desiring to locate looking living descendants and exchanging information such as we have already achieved in the Heath line. dgc

George Ernest Bowman, editor of the Mayflower Descendant, *The Mayflower Compact and its Signers* with facsimilies and a list of the Mayflower Passengers. Also a discertation was included discussing the fact that while their were 102 passengers why did only 41 sign? We will provide commentary on this in another issue.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?**Elizabeth Mayo Dinwiddie White**²⁹

[Editor's note: I thought this writeup might be of interest to show how tracing ancestors can be confusing. Martha prepared it several years ago as an explanation to her family and close relatives. It's need became apparent with the issuing of some family genealogy history by one of her cousins]

A brief explanation of why my birth certificate says Elizabeth, but I am called Martha -----.

Mother wanted to name me after Daddy's mother, commonly called "Pattie" Dinwiddie White. Apparently mother knew that Pattie was a nickname. Thinking that Pattie's birth name was Elizabeth, she named me that. Shortly thereafter, she found that my grandmother's birth name was Martha Thomas Emma Dinwiddie³⁰, as you will note on the family tree. Immediately she began to call me Martha, and so it has been ever since. My birth certificate and marriage license to Frank Harvey have Elizabeth. My marriage license to Donald Chinnery has Elizabeth Martha. MARTHA CHINNERY June 22, 1996

Subsequent to issuing this information, Martha ran across historical information regarding the wives of Thomas Jefferson and George Washington. Both of their wives had given names of Martha. One was called Patsy and the other was called Patti. Apparently common nicknames for Martha. dgc.

OUR UPCOMING TRAVELS.

The next issue of The Four Drive will not occur until late May or first part of June. Martha and I leave the first week of April for a six week trip "down under". We will be on an RV tour of Australia and New Zealand - traveling with a group of radio amateurs. Many of whom we are already acquainted with. On our return we will be stopping for a few days at Fiji. During our absence, replies to e-mail or regular mail will not occur.

²⁹ Martha's middle names of Mayo and Dinwiddie are maiden names of her step-grandmother and grandmother.

³⁰ Holladay, *Dinwiddie Family Records*, published in 1957 by King Lindsay Printing Corporation lists her as Pattie, making no attempt to provide her full name under the listing of the family group. Just another example of making genealogy research difficult.

FUTURE ISSUES

Your editor is interested in the following subjects for future issues.

1. The use of surnames as middle names. I am interested in information regarding the history of this practice. Using middle names as a genealogical research tool.

2. Dedicating an issue to review of old correspondence of our ancestors. I already have a few letters. Do you have any early family letters that you could send me copies of.

We solicit your assistance with both of these projects.

The Sommersett and Dorset**Family History Society**

Elsewhere in this issue you will see references to information received through The Sommersett and Dorset Family History Society. In *The Four Drive*, Vol I, No. 8, page 7 we reported having located this society on the internet. Subsequently we made contact with this society and have joined. Annual membership cost is £10 Sterling. Fortunately they accept credit cards making it easy to handle the membership payment and cost of services.

"*The Greenwood Tree*" the society's journal is published 4 times a year. Society services include but not limited to: Dorset Marriage Index, 1538-1837; Wills Enquiry Service, Range 1363-1994; Strays Index; Burials Index; Monumental Inscriptions; and similar services for the associated county of Sommersett.

I joined this society effective January 1, 1998. With my application I included a family group sheet for the Richard Lano family and references to the possible parents of Richard and Martha. This information was published in the February 1998 issue, and even before my copy of the journal arrived I had already received four letters from members who had seen my query. Additionally we have corresponded with Ken Andrew regarding the marriage index. The information received from these sources has confirmed the birth and parentage of Martha Weston Fudge and provided a wealth of data for her ancestors.

The FOUR DRIVE, a genealogy newsletter brought to you for promoting genealogy of our ancestors and their descendants.

Need copies of any of the information referenced? Contact the editor or the individual shown.

What about Family Group Sheets? Editor is most happy to provide what we have available upon request. GEDCOM files can also be provided. Your editor also accumulates as much information as he can concerning siblings. Family group sheets and information in many cases are also available.

Photocopying cost and postage appreciated.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

to this newsletter are free. If you wish to continue receiving this newsletter please acknowledge receipt of this newsletter with your comments and request to continue to the editor . [phone 828 665 7853]

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