

# Killian Family Newsletter

August 2010

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## Coming in the February Newsletter

DNA "Family Finder" Results between descendants of Samuel C. and a descendant of Daniel SR. This new DNA test might finally connect the pedigree line of William Riley Killian (1814-1860) and Jonas Conrad Killian (1827-1892) back to Andreas. Keep your fingers crossed.

## President's Points

Hi Cousins,

Let me just briefly catch everyone up on what has been going on since the last time I wrote. The association has many ongoing projects;

1) Interest in the Killian DNA project is growing. There are now 4 descendants of Leonard in the project. Family Finder, a new product from familytreeDNA has been introduced which might help our unlinked Andreas descendants find their ancestral line.

2) Our 2009 Killian Book won an award and book sales are steady with over 150 copies sold in the first 7 months.

3) William McCreight's research in Germany continues on Andreas's family before he came to America. He is sending new information monthly. Just before this newsletter went to print a sister of Andreas was discovered; Barbara born 1695. Read the continuing article on page 3.

4) The Association's treasurer Sandy Phillips and her staff have worked very hard on getting our tax-exempt status complete and we are state and federal approved. State status was received on June 17, 2010.

5) Our program director Dan Sipe and his staff have put together a great weekend full of activities for this year's Second Sunday in September Killian Family Reunion. All reunion information is posted on the family website along with this newsletter.



I hope to see each and everyone who reads this newsletter at the reunion this year. If you attend one reunion you will never want to miss another reunion. Y'all come on over.

Eric Killian, President  
Andreas Killian Descendants Historical Association  
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Hickory, NC 28602  
Email: [blademannc@yahoo.com](mailto:blademannc@yahoo.com)

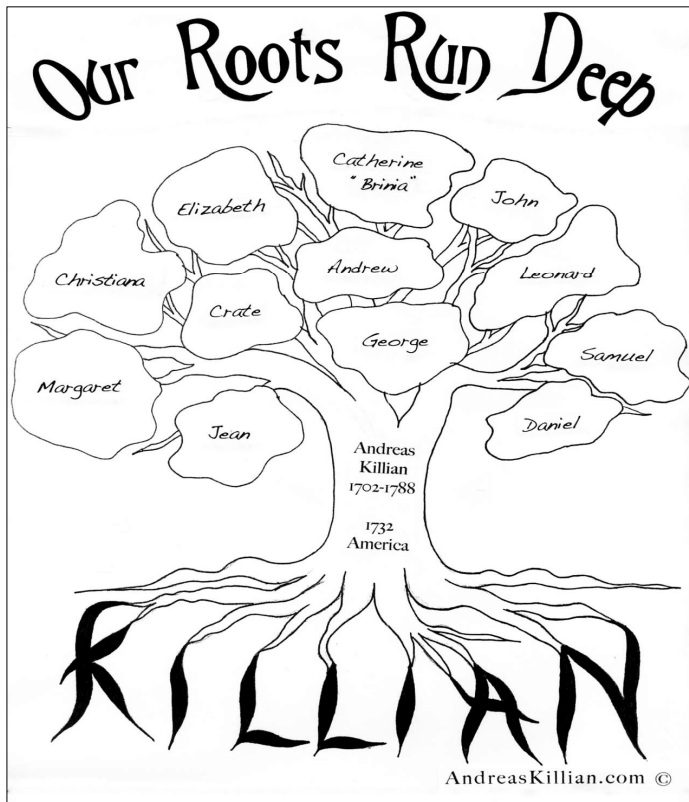
## Receive the Latest News by Joining the Andreas Killian email list.

Join the Andreas Killian email list by completing the email signup form at

[www.andreaskillian.com](http://www.andreaskillian.com)

You can also use the internet form to update your email address or other information. You will be notified when the newsletter is available for viewing, upcoming reunion information,

New findings in Germany from William McCreight or other Killian information that may be of interest to all (3-6 emails per year).



## Andreas Killian Descendants Historical Association

On June 17, 2010, the North Carolina Department of Revenue assigned the Association an exempt status for franchise and income tax purposes under Sections 105-125 and 105-130.11(a)(3), respectively, of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

Inquiries regarding our federal or state exemption status may be sent to:  
**Andreas Killian Descendants Historical Assoc.,**  
 c/o Sandy Phillips, Treasurer,  
 16310 Barcica Lane, Cornelius, NC, 28031

### Our Mission Statement:

The primary purpose of the Association is to research, educate and preserve the heritage of the German Pioneer Andreas Killian and affiliated families who settled in the mid 1700's around the Catawba River in what is now Catawba County, North Carolina; and secondarily to assist other inquirers nationally or internationally on Killian research which may or may not be related to Andreas Killian.

### Your Donations:

Contributions to the Association cover the expenses of the website, newsletter, other publications, the annual "Reunion" educational and business meetings, special events as well as any supporting administrative or fundraising costs needed to further our mission. Future goals supported by contributions will include monument/cemetery preservation, DNA research sponsorship and educational scholarships. The Association has no paid staff or employees and depends entirely on volunteers and donations.

### Confidentiality Policy:

It is our policy that personal information, such as your name, postal, and email address or telephone number, is private and confidential. We do not sell, trade, exchange or otherwise make available any personally identifiable information to any other company or organization. Personal information will not be released to third parties unless release is required by law or is pertinent to judicial or governmental investigations or proceedings."

## Association Officers for 2009-10

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Individual email addresses can be found online at  
[www.andreaskillian.com](http://www.andreaskillian.com)

*The printing and postage  
 for your newsletter  
 is paid from the  
 Association's General Fund.*

*Donations to the  
 association are  
 appreciated.*

*Send Donations To:*

**Andreas Killian Descendants  
 Historical Association  
 ATTN: Sandy Phillips  
 16310 Barcica Lane  
 Cornelius, NC 28031-8720**

## News from the Kilian Homeland

William McCreight  
3 February 2010

### New findings in Germany - continued from the February 2010 Newsletter

#### Andreas Kilian's Siblings and half-Siblings

It always seemed strange to me that Andreas' father (born 1652) was married to Anna Busch 16 years and no children baptismal records had emerged. He was married to Dorathea Knaus 33 years and only Andreas' baptismal record in 1702 had been found. It turned out that Andreas junior (born 1702) had four half-sisters and two half-brothers. He also had two brothers.

Andreas senior (born 1652) married Anna Busch and the event was registered in the church book of the Saint Gallus Church in Erzberg on 13 February 1677<sup>1</sup>. The couple lived in Steinbach an der Holzecke. This means Andreas must have moved from Schainbach at least before 13 February 1677. Anna Busch was buried in Erzberg on 30 January 1693<sup>2</sup>.

I have found Andreas (born 1652) and Anna Busch had the following children, all baptized in Erzberg:

Anna Maria, baptized 11 October 1678<sup>3</sup>.

Michael, baptized 20 March 1681<sup>4</sup>.

Barbara, baptized 31 October 1682<sup>5</sup>.

Johannes, baptized 23 May 1685<sup>6</sup>.

Maria Margaretha, baptized 12 November 1687<sup>7</sup>.

Maria Margaretha, baptized 3 April 1691<sup>8</sup>.

The baptismal record of Johann Kilian (baptized 1685) says his father was Andreas Kilian, Köbler in Steinbach and his mother was Anna Pusch. All of the other records say the mother was simply Anna, except the last daughter, Maria Margaretha, which says the mother was Anna Busch. Since Andreas married Anna Busch in 1677, she died in 1693 and the last child's record in 1691 says the mother was Anna Busch. Anna Pusch is obviously Anna Busch. At that time very few people could read and write. The cleric wrote what he was told the way it sounded to him. There was no standard spelling at that time. It was sometimes customary to give a child the name of a saint followed by another calling name. In some documents the person gave one name and at other times another. In these cases if everything else in the documents is correct they are accepted as the same person.

After the death of Anna Busch Kilian Andreas senior (born 1652) married Dorothea Knaus on 30 October 1694<sup>9</sup> and their children were baptized in Erzberg:

Barbara, baptized 28 July 1695<sup>10</sup>.

Johann Martin, baptized 11 November 1696<sup>11</sup>.

Andreas, baptized 16 January 1699<sup>12</sup> (apparently died young)

Andreas, baptized 1 December 1702<sup>13</sup>.

Naming two sons Andreas might seem unusual, but at that time it was not unusual when a child died to give the next child the same name.

1. Erzberg 172-1, 1677, p 335

2. Erzberg 172-1, 1693, p 4

3. Erzberg 172-1, 1678, p 28

4. Erzberg 172-1, 1681, p 34

5. Erzberg 172-1, 1682, p 38

6. Erzberg 172-1, 1685, p 48

7. Erzberg 172-1, 1687, p 53

8. Erzberg 172-1, 1691, p 62

9. Erzberg 172-1, 1694, p 353

10. Erzberg 172-1, 1695, p 71

11. Erzberg 172-1, 1696, p 76

12. Erzberg 172-1, 1699, p 84

13. Erzberg 172-1, 1702, p 96

To be continued. Part one of this article appeared in the February 2010 newsletter and part three and four are scheduled for February 2011 and August 2011. The February 2011 issue will discuss the question of who was Andreas' wife, mother of Leonhard, Margaretha and Johann. The article in its entirety was distributed by E-Mail in February 2010 to members who provided an E-Mail address and it can be found on the Killian Family Internet site:

[http://andreaskillian.com/ak-archives/Research-Reports/20100203%20New\\_Kilian\\_information\\_by\\_william\\_mccreight\\_secure.pdf](http://andreaskillian.com/ak-archives/Research-Reports/20100203%20New_Kilian_information_by_william_mccreight_secure.pdf)

## Back to Miles Andrew Killian 1829 NC-1900 GA

Submitted by Cheryl Mann Killian

Since the February 2009 newsletter there has been a considerable amount of interest in Miles Andrew Killian. The mystery of his parents has not been cleared up leading to more investigating. The indenture said "orphan" which suggests his father was a Killian male and there was not a bastardy bond found for Miles Killian, so it would seem he was of legitimate birth.

Miles Killian and Lucy Armstead were married in Fulton County, GA in 1854 and the family was living in the 4th Ward of Fulton County, GA in 1860 and 1870. While I think of the Miles Killian family as being a DeKalb County family, researcher Gene Killian found in 1870 Miles Killian and his family was counted twice. Once in DeKalb County and again in Fulton County counted next to his father-in-law William Armstead and 2 households from Eliza Killian and husband William Warwick.

Eliza Killian Warwick was born about 1809. William Warwick and Eliza were married 27 July 1843 in Lumpkin County, GA and are in the 1850 census of Lumpkin County. In 1833, Jacob Hunsucker and wife Sarah, John Hoke and wife Nancy, Lawson, Eveline, Franklin, and Mahala Killian by their guardian John Hoke, and George Bedford and wife Harriet, filed a petition in Lincoln County, North Carolina against Eliza and Andrew Killian praying for a partition for the land of Andrew Killian, deceased. By this we conclude Eliza Killian Warwick is the sister of Lawson Killian and she is the daughter of Andrew Killian III. All nine children of Andrew Killian (III) are named in the land division document of the July 1834 Lincoln County Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions (and DB36 pages 17-22).

Searches of public records have not revealed the relationship between Andrew Miles Killian and Eliza Killian Warwick. A descendant of these families needs to help us out. Ella J. Killian was the only known child of Miles Andrew Killian to have descendants. She and Robert L. Hadden had 7 children to reach adulthood. Robert and Ella's children are Annie Mary (c.1916-?), Carl K. (c.1914-1962), Robert L. Jr. (1906-1950), Raymond (c.1903-?), Lucy Elizabeth Killian Graham (1897-1927), Charlie F. (1895-1921) and William Augusta (1893-1948). Ella J. Killian Hadden was born April 1875 and died in Fulton County GA on July 29, 1946.

The advertisement on the back cover of this Killian Family Newsletter for D. A. Killian (son of Miles Andrew Killian and Lucy Armstead) was found among the internet searches for the Miles Killian family. It would seem D. A. Killian was born Augustus Adolphus Killian (b.c.1855 GA – d.c.1927 CA), but he went by many names; including D. A., Dolphus, Gustavus and Gus. Dolphus A. Killian and his wife Nannie L. Maxwell moved to California between 1890 and the 1910 census. They had no known children.

## Obituaries

**Floyd Edward "Bud" Killian** of Hickory, NC, passed away Monday, January 25, 2010, at his residence. He was born July 6, 1923, to Perry Albert Killian [GWK #44440] and Claudia Herman Killian in Catawba County. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Catherine Walls Killian; an infant son, Tony Killian; one brother, Glenn Killian; two sisters, Ruby Hedrick and Summa McCurry; and one half sister, Macie Hefner. Floyd was a member of St. Luke's Lutheran Church. He worked as a framer at Hickory Chair for more than 50 years. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. Loved ones left to cherish his memory include daughter, Pam Killian of the home; one son, Tim Killian of Conover; one granddaughter, Caty Killian of Conover; and a number of nieces and nephews. The funeral service was held on Thursday January 28, 2010 at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Conover. Interment followed in Fairview Cemetery in Hickory. Military rites performed by of Hickory American Legion.

**Julius Franklin Barkley Sr.** passed away February 26, 2010 in Gastonia, NC. He was a native of Lincolnton, NC, but had recently resided at Terrace Ridge Assisted Living in Gastonia. He was born December 28, 1918 to the late Franklin Pressley Barkley [GWK #36311] and Mary May Zettie Carpenter Barkley of Lincolnton. He served in the 118th Infantry Army Band during World War II. Upon returning from Europe, Barkley played with the 1950's dance band "Rhythm Masters." He was a life-long member of the First United Methodist Church of Lincolnton. He was preceded in death by his brother, Kenneth Harding Barkley [GWK #48822]. Survivors include his wife of 64 years, Margaret Louise Leatherman Barkley; children Julius Barkley of Gastonia and Linda Barkley Hoyle of Lincolnton. Funeral services were held on March 2. Interment followed at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Lincolnton.

(Continued on page 5)

*(Obituaries continued from page 4)*

**Wade Hampton Killian** of Hickory, NC, passed away April 14, 2010. Born May 21, 1922, in Catawba County, he was a son of the late Albert Lawrence Killian [GWK #49443] and Eula Davis Killian. Mr. Killian was a World War II Army veteran, having served in the European Theater. He retired from Hickory Chair after 43 years of service. He was a member of Mount Olive Lutheran Church and a former member of the American Legion. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Christie Helton; sister, Helen Blevins; and brothers, Glen, Donald, Mack, Bill, Lawrence Jr. and John Killian. Survivors include his wife of 66 years, Virginia Adams Killian; daughters, Brenda Camp of Hickory and Debra Helton and husband, Wallace, of Hickory; sister, Pearl Sherrill of Hickory; grandchildren, Ashley Fleming, Amanda Camp, Amber Camp, Allen Mackey, Dwayne Mackey, Wayne Mackey and Brandon Helton; and many great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. The funeral service was held Saturday, April 17, 2010. Interment followed in Catawba Memorial Park, with military honors provided by members of American Legion Post 48 of Hickory.

**Carroll Melvin Propst**, passed away March 8, 2010 at his home in Conover, Catawba County, NC. He was born in Catawba County on July 3, 1916, the second son of Carroll Milton Propst and Lizzie Eugenia Killian [GWK #29743] Propst. His wife, Pearl Luella Poovey Propst of 67 years predeceased him in 2003 as well as, Melvin's three brothers, Adrian Sidney Propst, Sr., Paul Killian Propst and Norman Wiley Propst and his sister, Anna Geneva Propst Setzer. He is survived by two daughters and a son - Elaine Garner, Adelia Tucker and Kenneth Propst; three granddaughters and great-grandchildren. Services were March 11, 2010 at New Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hickory, NC and burial at Catawba Memorial Park.

**Martha Borom Broom**, of Charleston, SC, entered into eternal rest May 1, 2010. Her funeral services was May 5, 2010, at three o'clock. Interment followed in Live Oak Memorial Gardens. Mrs. Broom was born March 31, 1944, in Selma, Alabama, the daughter of the late Wilbur L. Borom and Marjorie Hamrick Borom. She was a retired accountant at the Citadel and a member of First Baptist Church of Charleston. She is survived by her three daughters, the Great Granddaughters of Julia Ervenia Killian [GWK #2417] who married Walter Furman Broom Sr. [GWK #2707] and six Great Great grandchildren of Julia Ervenia Killian. The daughters are Deborah B. (Jimmy) Pearson of Mount Pleasant, SC, Helen B. (Joseph) Banach, of Atlanta, GA and Marjorie Gayle (Bob) McCaffrey of Charleston, SC.

**Gary Nelson Killian** passed away on June 7, 2010, at age 63 after a courageous battle with cardiac amyloidosis. A native of Conover, NC, he was a longtime resident of Metairie, LA. He is survived by his two sons, Eric Michael and Paul Alan; his mother, Zelma Turner Killian; and sister, Judy K. Dellinger. He is also survived by his four grandchildren, Conner, Riley, Carter and Brianna Killian; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Hilda Mae Gillis Killian; his son, Brian Thomas; and his father, Fredrick Darel Killian [GWK #38042]. He worked for Union Carbide for 34 years. Funeral Mass was held on Friday, June 11, 2010. Interment was a private service.

**Mary Jo Rogers McRae**, of Fort Smith AR, died June 13th 2010. She was born December 17th, 1913 in Conway, Arkansas to Eliza Watts Killian [GWK #17293] and Silas Wesley Rogers. She celebrated 49 years of marriage to Carleton McRae before his death in 1986. She is survived by her daughter, Mary Carleton Young, her son, Chris, daughter-in-law Christine McRae, one sister, Jane Ramano, grandchildren Tracy Young Smith, Christy Young Ivey, Stephen McRae Young, Catherine McRae, Thomas McRae, Heather McRae, Jennifer McRae and Doug McRae. She is also survived by six great grandchildren. In addition to her husband, she was predeceased by her son, Thomas C. McRae, IV, grandson Robert A. Young, IV and three brothers, Silas W., Thomas T., and Dr. William B. Rogers. Funeral service was held June 16, 2010. Graveside service was in Eldorado, Arkansas on June 17th, at the Arlington Memorial Park.

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**Returned newsletter**, unable to forward, deceased: Ms. Thelma Goodson, Westbrook Cir, Gastonia, NC. I was unable to trace Thelma Mae Goodson's ancestry back to Andreas, but her Catawba River ancestry runs deep, therefore I have included her death notice in the Killian Family Newsletter. She was born in Mount Holly on June 5, 1923, the daughter of the late Irvn P. Goodson and Bessie Keener Goodson and died September 9, 2009. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her sister, Inez Rhoda Moss. She is survived by her brother, Fred Goodson of Gastonia and sister, Naomi Abernathy of Charlotte. Her funeral service was September 13 and interment at Asbury United Methodist Church Cemetery.

My deepest sympathy to the family,  
Cheryl Mann Killian

## Digitizing and Indexing Early Court Records

*J. Kenneth Brantley*

President – The Brantley Association of America

Court records are required, by law, to be made available to the public. The problem is that the older the record, the more fragile, yet more likely to reveal genealogical information. Because of this and the fact there is no all inclusive index\*\*, researchers will visit the court house and turn the pages in the book, page by page. This creates excessive wear and potential damage to the courthouse book. This is particularly critical to the most precious early books. If the book is digitized and placed on-line, wear or damage is not a factor because researchers can see it in digital form and do not have to handle the book to search.

*\*\* Deed books and will books have an index, but they only include the principle parties, the person who made the will or in the case of the deed book, the grantors and grantees. The index does not show all the other parties mentioned in the document. Discoveries of family relationships are often found in both books and in the text.*

Can you imagine an every name index? Because the digital imaging will lead to indexing of the books, again the use of the book is reduced, even if the researcher visits the courthouse, because the researcher will know exactly where to go to find the information he/she seeks. They will not have to turn page by page to see if their ancestor is found within the text. If the ancestor is in the text, they will know exactly where.

Having the records on-line saves the researcher money. The cost of travel is now and will be an issue in the future. According to the Government's analysis, it cost 58 cents a mile to drive an automobile. If I live only 12 miles away, each trip will cost more than \$13. Without an index and the restricted hours of operation at the courthouse, the researcher may have to make many trips. Since most researchers are not close to the courthouse, and some live in other states, travel can be very costly or impossible depending on distance.

In addition to the cost to travel, the time to travel will be reduced for the researcher. The time to research will be significantly reduced because the records will have an all inclusive index for every man, woman and child mentioned therein. There will be no page by page research, sifting through the ancient, delicate, and often difficult to read text. There will be no scheduling of time to coincide with the hours/days of operation of the courthouse. They can do the research in their pajamas at their computer at 2:00AM if they like, or any other time.

An argument that money will be lost to the county government for “copying” is faulty. First, the maintenance cost to the books will be reduced, but also, since many more findings will be made by so many, copies of the original documents will still be desired. Further, many of these documents will be key ones which may qualify the researcher in different historical and patriotic organizations, “Certified Copies” will be needed. Although, it takes little more time to “certify” a page/document is true and correct, the charge is usually 5 or in some cases, 10 times more than just a plain copy, resulting in an increased profit.

Among the most frustrated researchers are the black Americans whose ancestry goes back to slavery. They are discouraged from the beginning, because there is no index to the slaves in the courthouse transactions. Yet, there are many instances where their kindred were named and relationships established in estates records, wills and, since they were considered “property”, in the many deed records through early 1865. In addition to vital information covering all citizens, the index will include every man woman and child, too, of the slaves

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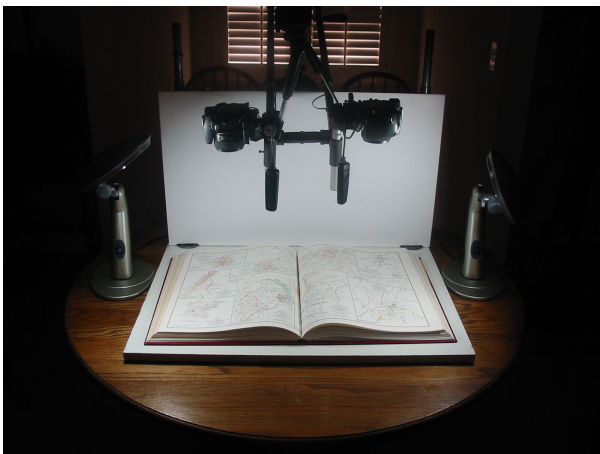
mentioned in the early years of these court entries and will be clearly marked.

The fact is, because of the great interest seen in other such projects, citizens in the years to come, will ultimately demand to have the court records made available to researchers and historians across America. Sooner or later the demand will be so high, that volunteers such as the Brantley Association will not be able to keep up with request from counties to digitize the records. Cost of the service under a contract to a professional service will run into several thousands of dollars.

For the county officials to be pro-active and have their county be among the first to take part in this progressive approach to records availability, they will be recognized as pioneers and champions to their citizens who will forever benefit from such a project.

The project of indexing the records is the key to benefits of digitizing these records. While random search in the original court books will significantly diminish, genealogist and historians will make discoveries never before known. This will have a positive impact to citizens in the county and descendants of the forbears throughout America. The precious books are better preserved although there will be more and more researchers as time goes on. Genealogy itself is now one of the leading hobbies in the nation. It is the number 2 interest on the internet. Without the availability of the records in a digitized form, the books will be increasingly exposed to wear and necessary maintenance and, in fact, the lost of vital information to historical and genealogy research. Everybody wins with this project, especially when it is offered for free.

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J. Kenneth "Ken" Brantley has authored 8 books dealing with Georgia genealogy. You can visit the Brantley website at [www.brantleyassociation.com](http://www.brantleyassociation.com) and see the digitized records and the indexes provided by volunteers.

Digitizing records was made possible because a \$300 camera can make an excellent copy of an old document in a 10<sup>th</sup> of a second. Ken devised a tripod which holds two cameras over a book and with a, hands free, dual shutter release mechanism which he designed. He can basically take images of the books as fast as the pages can be turned. The ground-breaking approach was first done in Southampton County, VA in February and March of 2009. Ken digitized over 52,000 pages of early court records (1749-1885) at the courthouse in 3 weeks. Since then, volunteers recruited by The Brantley Association of America, which Ken is head, have come

forth and indexed, so far, 938,000 names. When completed, (summer 2010) Ken and his volunteers will have digitized the name of every man woman and child mentioned therein, likely representing over a million name entries. Southampton County, Virginia is the first county in the nation to have this done. The Southampton (SoH) project is getting the attention of genealogy societies, researchers and Court house clerks all over the country. Descendants of those once in SoH will soon be able to see any estate record, marriage entry or deed transaction that their ancestor made in these earlier years, sitting in their pajamas in front of a computer.

The Brantley Association and the volunteers participating in the project, see this as, potentially, one of the greatest endeavors in genealogy research in decades. Our biggest goal is to awake others as to the fruits of this approach to research and inspire them to initiate such projects in their own locality. Cheryl Mann Killian was one of the volunteers and indexed Deed Book 32.

## Letha Jane Killian Hood Newman

*Originally written by Frank John Gant in 1975  
and additional facts added by his son Douglas J. Gant in 2010.*



Letha Jane did not keep a diary and so much of what we know about her is from family history. Her daughter, Letha Newman Hunter wrote a little about Letha Jane in her history and Nugget Newman (her granddaughter by Solomon Newman) describes her in several letters in the 1970s. I have added some speculation on some of her history to fill in some information about the locations she lived in during her life. We have found records of her marriages to Joseph Hood and Elijah Newman. We also have several census records while living in Utah.

Letha Jane Killian was born in Lexington, Lafayette County, Missouri, on 11 October 1822 (some records list 1823 and 1824). She was the third child of John Killian and Lydia Ann Hopper. Her mother had been married in about 1814 to a Robert Conley and had three daughters by him; so Letha Jane was her mother's sixth child. Her mother died 18 October 1834.

Her father was called to serve a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day-Saints around the time her mother died, so her stepsisters and older brother's George and Thomas cared for Letha while their father was on his mission.

John Killian remarried in 1837. He and his new wife moved to the Nauvoo, Illinois area with the Saints. I believe Letha Jane stayed in the Lafayette area with her stepsister, Mary Ann Conley. This is where Letha met her husband Joseph Armstead Hood.

On 26 September 1844 she married Joseph. Some family historians have him being born in 1785 others in 1822. I think the 1822 date makes more sense. I don't see her marrying someone older than her father and having three children in just a few years if Joseph was in his mid sixties. One record has him as a Captain in the U.S. Army another as an employee of the Federal Government.

They had three daughters. Nancy Jane, born in Missouri on 16 September 1846. Letha had a sister named Nancy and so most likely named her after her sister. Her next daughter, Mary Ann was born in Lexington, Lafayette County, Missouri, on 16 August 1848. Mary Ann was most likely named after Letha Jane's stepsister Mary Ann Conley. A third daughter, Sarah died in infancy in Missouri in either 1849 or early 1850.

Family history has her husband being killed in the New Mexico Territory by an outlaw in 1850. With the news that her husband was killed, Letha Jane and her two daughters, Nancy Jane and Mary Ann, came to the Utah Territory in 1850. They most likely left from Lafayette. During the 1850s Lafayette was one of the many locations where pioneers traveling west would outfit their wagons and supplies for the trek west.

There are many family stories about her coming across the plains. One has her coming with her father and stepmother, Sally McClure and some of her brothers. Another has her coming across on her own with her daughters until her brother, George located her at Laramie, Wyoming and helped her the rest of the way. It is reported she walked every step of the way. A third story has her coming across the plains with Elijah

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*(Continued from page 8)*

Newman and his daughter, Virginia (age 12). Elijah's wife who had left Elijah while he was in Salt Lake City for another man had left Virginia with Letha Jane. We just learned of a letter by Elijah asking his son, William Newman to bring Virginia from Nebraska to Salt Lake in 1850 so I don't think the story of her traveling with Elijah is true. I like a version in which she comes across the plains on her own with her two daughters. Just think, in 1850 the Plains were packed with 49ers, Mormon immigrants and many families going to Oregon and Washington. She probably hooked up with one of the many wagon trains and was looked after because she was a young widow with little children.

Upon entering the Salt Lake Valley, Letha Jane married Elijah Newman in October 1850 and a year later they were sealed (religious marriage) together in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City on 11 December 1851. To them were born seven children.

Elijah Newman had come to the Salt Lake Valley with Brigham Young's first wagon train in 1847. Elijah had lived in Far West, Missouri and Nauvoo, Illinois during the same time as the Killian family. If the one family story about Virginia Newman being left with Letha Jane is true, then the families were familiar with one another and this would make sense with Elijah and Letha Jane marrying so soon after she arrives in the Valley.

In December 1850, Elijah volunteers to help settle Iron County in southern Utah. He left his daughter and Letha Jane and her daughters with her father and wife in Salt Lake City.

Letha Jane stayed in Salt Lake for a couple of years until a fort and houses were built in what is now called Parowan, Utah. It looks like Elijah would return to Salt Lake during the winters to be with Letha Jane and the family and return to Iron County during the spring and summer to plant and harvest crops until the family finally moved to Parowan in 1852.

The Mormon's settled Iron County because iron ore was discovered there. The plan was to mine the ore and smelt it into iron and then transport it to Salt Lake City. This never worked out because the iron ore was of a poor quality. Farming and ranching became the main industries in the area. Elijah was a farmer and carpenter by trade. Their daughter, Letha wrote in her history that the first home they lived in was an adobe house inside the fort in Parowan. Later, Elijah built a nice two-story log house.

*(Continued in the next Killian Family Newsletter)*



### **Killyon's Canyon, Where am I and what Killian am I named after?**

We now know the father of Letha Jane Killian Hood Newman was a notable figure from the days in Nauvoo. John Killian was a captain in the Caldwell County Militia during the vigilante days of Haun's Mill. He was said to have been sent to Emigration Canyon as part of the "Silver Grays" who were protecting the roads into the valley from invasion. Emigration Canyon is a 9-mile-long, 2-mile-wide stretch of forest, brushy hillside and canyon bottom east of Salt Lake City, Utah. Today it is home to about 1,200 people, slightly fewer than the initial waves of Mormon pioneers who passed through it 159 years ago, in 1847. John Killian was the first resident. Though misspelled, a fork called Killyon's Canyon bears his name.

## Edgar Wilson Killian Born September 28, 1883

Edgar Wilson Killian was a newspaper man all his life. On his World War I Draft Registration Card, he worked for the Birmingham News, Birmingham, Alabama. On the 1910 census, he is listed as 24 years old renting a room in Atlanta, Fulton County, GA and occupation Proofreader for the newspaper. On the 1900 census, he is 16 listed as a typesetter. Yes, this man had ink in his blood.

Research shows Edgar Killian and wife Flora appears on the 1 Jan 1920 census for Jefferson Co, KY (Louisville Ward 9). With them is Eva Ostrider, shown as Edgar's step-daughter born ca. 1917. She is followed by son Edward Killian, age 1 month. Edward is followed by Farrice McCarty, age 39, born in KY and identified as Edgar Killian's father in law. Then he is followed by Nancy McCarty, age 37, listed as Edgar's mother in law. We can conclude, his wife was Flora McCarthy. She was born in KY and was married as a teenager to a man named Ostrider. She remarried Edgar Killian in 1918 and their son, Edward was born about Nov-Dec 1919.

In the 1930 census of Ohio, Hamilton County, Precinct E., Cincinnati, Edgar is a printer for the newspaper. With him is wife Flora, age 31, son Edward, age 10 and son Charles, age 5. Both sons were born in KY. He was employed by the Cincinnati Inquirer. The 1930 census indicates that Edgar and his family moved to Ohio after the birth of Charles ca. 1925.

Edgar Wilson Killian's lineage goes back to Andreas Killian through John. Edgar's father was Rev. William Littleton Coleman (W.L.C.) Killian, a Methodist minister born in Denver, NC, February 1853, died July 5, 1930 and is buried in Hollywood Cemetery at Gastonia, NC. His mother was Cora Wilson. His brother was Guy William Killian, 1889-1971. Guy was active in some of the early Killian reunion activities. Guy hosted Cletus H. Killian when the Andreas Killian monument was dedicated in 1952.

*Sources: Evelyn Wilson Killian Parks (1913-2007), Bill Hinds, Jerry G. Rose, Lillian M. [Wilson] Killian, Database of George W. Killian, Census records and WWI Draft Card.*

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## Killian Family Reunion of Alabama

The Alabama Killian family reunion is held every two years (even numbered) at Gravel Hill Baptist Church, on US Hwy 11, just south of Fort Payne. Even though the reunion meets every two years it is an active association with many historical projects. Their 2008-2010 project was marking the Killian Family Cemetery and the Gravel Hill Cemetery with signage. The 2010-2012 project is to take down a large pine tree which threatens to topple over the headstone of Daniel Killian (1790) at Killian Cemetery.

In 1840 there were 3 Killi\*n families in Alabama, two of those Killian families were the ancestors of the current day DeKalb County, Alabama Killians. By 1920 there was about 70 Killi\*n families in Alabama, of which 26 were living in DeKalb County Alabama. This is compared to the approximate 90 Killi\*n families in all of North Carolina in 1920.

This Killian family is strong in numbers and in efforts to preserve their Killian Heritage. The Gravel Hill Baptist Church and Cemetery was given one acre of land by Daniel Shephed Killian (1835-1889). This family line of Killians can trace their ancestry back to Daniel Killian (1790 NC) and Mary Elizabeth Bost (1792 NC). The father of Daniel (1790) is not known at this time.

The Alabama Killians are a great bunch of people. On June 19th at this year's reunion two descendants of Daniel Killian SR and one descendant of Samuel Killian, sons of Andreas, joined the Alabama cousins. We were warmly welcomed at the workshop, catered lunch and business meeting.

Send your reunion news to the editor at [ckilli@chater.net](mailto:ckilli@chater.net)

## John Y. Killian Descendants Reunion, York, South Carolina

On April 24, 2010 Joe and Dolly Killian hosted the local Killian clan at his farm in York, South Carolina to a great Southern fish fry led by the chief chef Bobby Abernathy, brother in law of Joe. It had been at least forty years as best as could be remembered since a gathering of the local Killians had occurred. Joe had had a vision for sometime to do this. He set the gears in motion and with the help of his siblings, cousins and many phone calls, he was able to bring together 116 descendants of John Yancey Killian and Mattie Bumgardner Killian. John and Mattie were parents to four boys and five girls all born between 1896 and 1909: Quincy, Carl Leslie, Lee Marion, Robert Alonzo, Edna Bell, Nettie Mae, Ezzie Charles, Carrie B., Blanche. John Yancey's line is Andreas> Samuel C.>, Andrew> John Yancey. John Yancey had other Siblings named William L., Anna B. and Peter Alonzo.

Like so many families John Yancey and Mattie's' county migrations included Lincoln and Gaston of N.C. and York County of S.C. They followed the textile mills all the way to York County settling last in Clover, S.C. John and Mattie are buried at Woodside Cemetery Clover, S.C.

Pictured below are most of the grandchildren and great grandchildren of John Yancey and Mattie B Killian. Joe is in the center front row sitting down. Andreas would be proud!



Submitted by Dan Sipe (pictured far left kneeling) son of Ezzie Charles Killian Sipe.

### 2009 Killian Book News

The first printing of the 2009 Killian Book sold out in 7 months and 50 more copies were ordered. 12 copies were sold at the 2010 Alabama Killian Reunion on June 19th. Wouldn't it be wonderful to sale the remaining 38 copies before the Second Sunday in September and have to order again? If you haven't gotten your copy order today. The book is \$30.00 including handling and shipping.

Make payment to Andreas Killian Association and mail to:  
Cheryl Mann Killian, 130 Rowan Road, Ellenwood, GA 30294

**Association of Descendents of Pioneer Andreas Killian  
Celebrating 76 Years Second Sunday in September Reunion  
September 10-12, 2010**

Our goal is to create a fun, informative event with the utmost consideration for expenses. All information and any last minute changes will be available on our website at:

**[www.Andreaskillian.com](http://www.Andreaskillian.com)**

**Accommodations**

What was formerly the Hampton Inn of Hickory is now the remodeled Best Western, 1520 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue Drive, S.E., Hickory, NC 28602 (828-323-1150). The Manager, Chanell Owensby, has offered the Association a group rate of \$59.99 plus tax for rooms with 1 king or 2 queen beds. Continental breakfast is included. Mention the Killian Reunion for the discount.

**Food**

For meals on your own, the Best Western offers breakfast or you can go next door to the J&S Cafeteria – a regular stop for our out-of-towners. For Dinner on Friday evening, we will have a catered meal at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church. The Adult menu is chicken or pork, green beans, small potatoes, corn, coleslaw, dessert, rolls, and tea for \$10 per plate. On the registration form, please be sure to specify your meat choice. For kids under 10 years, the menu will have chicken tenders for \$5. For Lunch on Saturday, there are several restaurants nearby to choose from. We hope the Boy Scouts will host their Annual Barbecue as it has been a hit in the past. You will have many choices around Hickory on Saturday evening but most attendees go to the J&S Cafeteria next to the Best Western. We have asked our wonderful Caterer, Jennifer Brittain, from last year's Reunion to come back for a repeat performance on Sunday for lunch. The cost for Sunday's lunch is \$10 per plate.

So that our speakers can begin their discussions without interruption, please be punctual at those times.

**About the Speakers:**

*Dr. Robert Carpenter* is the author of *Carpenters A Plenty*, an excellent book about the Pioneer Zimmerman/Carpenter Families whose history is intertwined with the Killians and related families. Dr. Carpenter is President of the Gaston Lincoln Genealogical Society and current Editor of *Footprints in Time*. Having served as an Educator for 34 years and Principal for 26 years, Dr. Carpenter currently teaches history as an adjunct professor at Belmont Abbey College. We look forward to his lecture "German Migrations and Religions West of the Catawba" on Friday.

*Dr. Robert Hart* is a family physician, historian and conservationist. Over 30 years, he and his wife have amassed a virtual village of seventy log structures dating from 1782 to 1873 on

a private tract of land in Hickory, North Carolina. Known as Hart Square, the largest collection of original historic log buildings in the United States, the village is open to the public only once a year in October. At that time, around 220 volunteer artisans perform demonstrations bringing the village to life - the life of the 1800's in Catawba County. We are pleased to have a representative give a presentation about this important restoration project by Dr. Hart on Saturday morning following the Museum Tour.

**Dan Sipe** is past President of the Andreas Killian Descendants Historical Association and is currently serving as Program and Project Director. In 2009, Dan had the privilege of traveling to Germany to the locations relevant to Andreas Killian. He will share his experience with us in his "Route to Our Roots" lecture on Saturday after lunch.

**Michael Scoggins** is the Historian of the McCelvey History Center of York County, SC. He will present a fascinating historical sketch of the Flood of 1916 and it's impact on the Catawba River on Sunday after lunch.

### **Activities:**

**The Catawba County Museum of History** will be hosting a private tour of the museum for the Association. The Museum offers testimony to the self-sufficient pioneers who followed the Native American Trails along the Catawba River to what is today Catawba County. Housed in the 1924 Catawba County Courthouse, the Museum has an interesting collection of historical artifacts, documents and photographs that is a must-see.

If you haven't had the opportunity, you should make the effort to stop by **Andy Killian's AutoSports** to get a tour of his fascinating car collection. Not far from Andy's you can stop by the **Killian's Hardware** for a tour of Elmer Killian's private museum. Please note Killian's Hardware closes at 2:00pm on Saturday.

The **Genealogy Workshop** as always will be full of interesting information about the Killian family. If you are unsure of your lineage, there will be folks on hand and databases to provide help in discovering your roots.

The **Business Meeting** is an important part of our 3-day event. We will have a lot to share, especially our new nonprofit designation. We will also want to review our goals. (If we have at least 10 kids pre-registered, we will arrange for a special event by the Science Center!)

**Stargazing!** After dinner, we have a special treat- the Catawba Valley Astronomy Club will be at Mt. Zion Church with telescopes for some stargazing. Remember, Andreas was looking at the same night sky!

We hope you will join us in celebrating our heritage, meeting some cousins and maybe learning something new along the way!

## **Association of Descendents of Pioneer Andreas Killian Celebrating 76 Years Reunion September 10-12, 2010 Schedule of Events**

### **Friday, September 10, 2010**

(all times are Eastern Standard Time)

Check-In at hotel as you arrive

5:30pm-6:15pm: Registration/Social Gathering at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

6:30pm: Dinner, catered by SAM (Single And Married) club ladies of Mt. Zion Lutheran Church

7:15pm Speaker: Dr. Robert Carpenter – Author of Carpenters A Plenty will discuss “German Migrations and Religions West of the Catawba”

### **Saturday, September 11, 2010**

8:30am: Registration/Gather at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church ([mountzionlutheran.org](http://mountzionlutheran.org))

9:00am: Catawba County Museum of History Tour ([catawbahistory.org](http://catawbahistory.org))

10:30am or after tour): Hart Square Presentation

After presentation you may want to see:

Elmer Killian’s Private Museum Tour at Killian’s Hardware

Andy Killian’s Private Auto Collection Tour

Lunch on your own

1:30pm: Dan Sipe’s presentation: “Route to Our Roots”

2:00-4:00pm: Social Gathering/Genealogy Workshop, Mt. Zion Lutheran Church  
Feel free to bring Killian Antiques, Hobbies, Art, Photos to share

4:00pm: Business Meeting

Dinner on your own (Recommend J&S Cafeteria next to Best Western)

7:30pm: Social Gathering at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church

8:30pm: Stargazing-Seeing the stars Andreas saw in 1700’s and beyond at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church presented by the Catawba Valley Astronomy Club. Also Cemetery Night Photography will be taught on how to read those difficult tombstones.

### **Sunday, September 12, 2010**

10:00am Church Service Old St. Pauls Church OR

10:30am Church Service Mt. Zion Lutheran Church

1:00pm (Please be prompt) Catered Lunch at Mt. Zion Church

1:45pm Guest Speaker, Historian Michael Scoggins of the McCelvey History Center of York County, SC will present “the Flood of 1916”



Editor Charles David Killian,  
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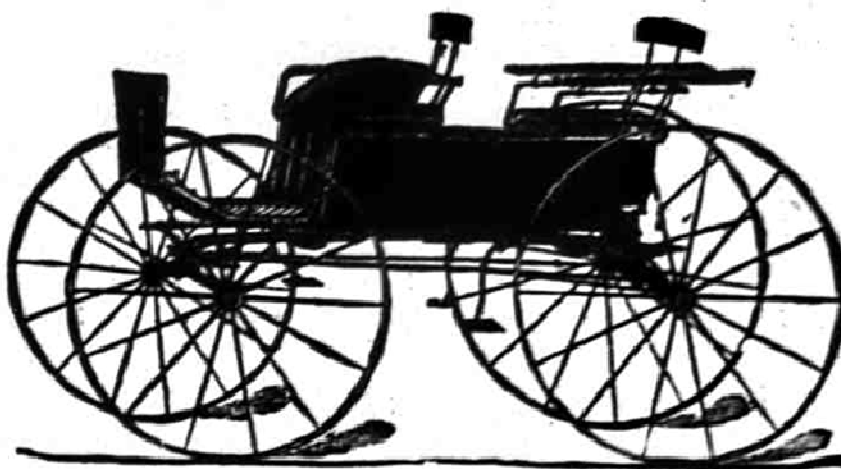
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