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**Volume 2
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May, June & July 2019

An Insight into the St. John Family of Highlight



current topics >>>

Why a family newsletter

By Suzanne St. John

The St. Johns of Highlight, Glamorgan, Wales are *lost* in Modern History. The individuals of this family, their ancestors and descendants have been merged, confounded, and obliterated into non-existence by well-meaning researchers, heralds, and family before us. It is our responsibility and right to honor our ancestors based on the primary records that have been left for us. We owe it to them as genealogical preservationists to correct the historical record and the public's understanding.

For more information go to
www.stjohngenealogy.com
 or email stjohngenealogy@gmail.com



Modern tools versus archaic ways
Deciphering between various behaviors

by Suzanne St. John

The Old Style and New Style Calendar

The year, at the time of the American Colonial period, began March 25th and ended March 24th, and so remained until 1752; then the change was made to January 1st by Great Britain and her Colonies. Other European countries had made the change earlier.

From 1607 to 1752 double dating was the common practice for the months between January 1st and March. This was an attempt to give dates for a year beginning March 25th and at the same time for a year beginning January 1st. This led to much confusion with regard to dates of marriages and births.

~ Online St. John Alexander, 1907

Not only is double dating confusing but in the modern technological age, it creates serious issues with computer calculation functions when the date cannot be easily translated by a computer system. In my early research, I used the first date with the assumption that it could be a year off. As I began to share my research with others, I began getting emails full of 'corrections' from various people. I ultimately updated my website to handle various date functions, but I have not gone back to update records I created in the past unless new information led me to update the record anyway.

Abbreviations

In the Introduction of Online St. John Alexander's 1907, book she lists various abbreviations she used. She, like you will often see others do, used b. to mean born and B. to mean baptized. She does not have one for buried although I have seen it as bur.

My website is setup with fields for both birth and baptism as well as death and burial. To calculate age the birth and death fields are used. Therefore, where only a baptism record is available in medieval and colonial records, I use the birth field and sometimes duplicate in the baptism field.

St. John Surname

On my website the St. Johns that descend paternally from Raoul de Sancto Johanne are recorded with the surname as follows: St. John

The St. Johns that descend paternally from Adam de Port are recorded with the surname as follows: de Port-St. John

This hyphenated form puts the paternal surname first followed by a hyphen and then the St. John surname to distinguish them for our DNA study. This format is used whenever NPE St. John lineages are identified.

Write for us >>>

Submitting articles for future publications

The articles will be sent in Word Format to:
stjohngenealogy@gmail.com

Focus

We seek articles on the St. John families that are direct ancestors or descendants of the St. Johns of Highlight, Glamorgan, Wales. This forum encourages descendants and avid researchers with any level of writing skill to participate. We can always find persons to help edit and improve submissions. The family tree at www.stjohngenealogy.com is the primary tree we use, update, and correct.

Types

- Immigrant origins with a genealogical summary.
- Problem solving articles with genealogical summary.
- Genealogical accounts of families, especially families for which no genealogy now exists.
- Source Material
- Current Events
- Common Bonds
- Brick walls
- Help requests
- DNA discoveries
- Phonetic variations
- Newly discovered branches
- Persons or Events of Interest
- Biographies

Writing Guidelines

- Microsoft Word, 12-point type
- Citations for each statement of fact that is not common knowledge. Each should be cited to one or more reliable sources; primary sources preferred.

Submission Guidelines

- Submit a description of your article in advance.
- Limit to 6000 words or less
- Consider including digital copies or scans of original documents
- Do not submit articles that have been published before
- Do not submit articles you are submitting elsewhere
- Include author's direct lineage up to Christopher St. John 1547-1616 of Highlight, Glamorgan, Wales if known.
- A PDF digital copy of your article once published will be attached to your person record on our website



Primary records >>>



Primary Records and Documents for Genealogy

Primary source materials include such resources as vital records (birth, marriages, and death), abstracts of wills, court records, town records, city directories, church (parish) registers, census, newspapers, land deeds, military lists, passenger list, heraldry trees, Visitation reports, tax rolls, archeological reports, and family folklore.

Evaluate the Evidence

- How helpful is the evidence?
- How reliable is the evidence?
- Is it valid for meeting the research objective and does it produce some level of proof?
- Is it objective evidence
- Does it answer questions
- Does it stand on its own merit?
- Do others interpret it differently



Remember all records are not equal

St. John Genealogy & DNA

Social Media is a great way to connect with other St. Johns, share information, ask questions, and learn. In addition to this newsletter, we have a Facebook page and group!



www.facebook.com/groups/stjohngenealogy



Preserve your DNA for the future

We are looking for DNA test subjects with a documented and provable St. John lineage to participate in our ongoing Genealogical and DNA study. Collections kits obtain saliva for testing. They are non-invasive, painless and private.

Volunteer Job Role openings

- Writer:** A writer is someone who uses descriptive and engaging written language to create historical profiles and summaries of our St. John ancestors.
- Technical Author:** A writer that specializes in explaining genealogical and other technical processes in a simple, easy to understand, manner.
- Copy Editor:** makes sure that published or soon to be published works are free of spelling and grammar errors.
- Editorial Assistant:** helps with the general running of the newsletter, from administrative to editorial.
- Art Editor:** creates an overall look of the newsletter, making sure it's both attractive and easy to read.

If any of these VOLUNTEER job roles interest you, please submit a brief resume and portfolio sample to stjohngenealogy@gmail.com

Groups Insights

64 **+3.1K%**

New Members
Last 28 Days

590 **+37%**

Posts, Comments and Reactions
Last 28 Days



Julie Kaufman, Jeff St John and others
are top contributors.

Events Calendar

Settings

+ Create Event

September 2017



St. John Family Reunion

Sunday, September 24, 2017 at 11 PM CDT
Jason J St. John and 74 other guests

You hosted.



International Talk Like a Pirate Day 2017

Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at 12 AM
1 guest

You hosted.

ask the experts >>>

Q: *How long does a search take?*

A: *The duration of a search depends on many factors, including how close your DNA matches are, whether they have family trees, the accessibility of genealogical records, whether you are seeking a parent or a great grandparent, and whether you come from an endogamous group with a history of intermarrying. Most searches resolve within 10 to 20 hours of work over several months. ~ The DNA Geek*



Classifying the Unclassified St. Johns

Page 503 William St. John & Hannah Plumsted

By Suzanne St. John

I have decided a new section of the newsletter should be dedicated to identifying St. Johns found in the Unclassified section of Orlin St. John Alexander's 1907 book and others who have been identified through DNA testing and primary record research.

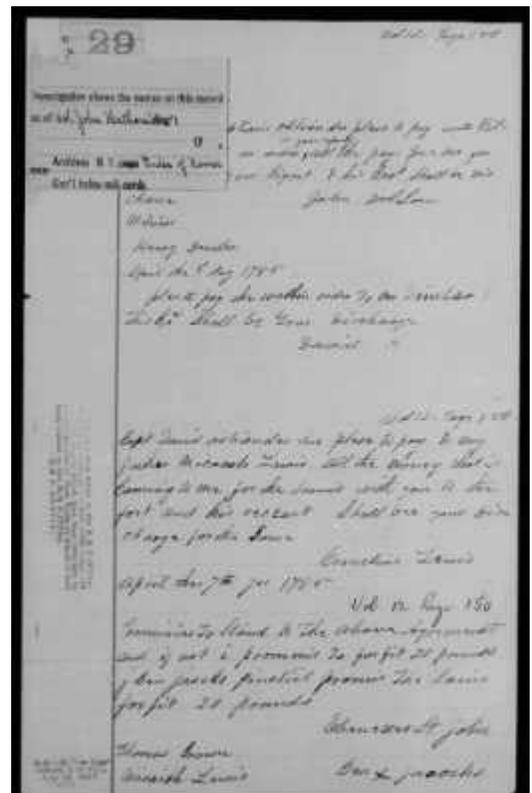
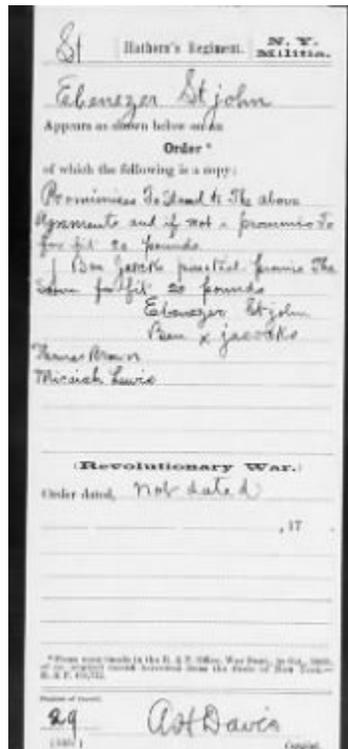
The first Unclassified St. John on page 503 happens to be my direct ancestor, [William St. John](#). William was the unlinked son of 81A Ebenezer St. John and his unclassified wife, Mary Garnsey. Ebenezer first appears in the list of children for his father 26 Captain Samuel St. John of Ridgefield and Rebecca Olmstead on page 59. Ebenezer is mentioned again on page 110 with his brothers where it says he was from Ulster, New York with his brother 81 Job St. John.

In William's information it shows he was in Marlborough and Plattekill, New York which were the first towns of Ulster, New York. In order to identify William as a son of Ebenezer and identify his siblings, we used the information from Job to eliminate identifiable persons. The rest we could attribute to Ebenezer by comparing against available census records. This process resulted in the identification of all of Ebenezer's children and his wife Mary Garnsey.

Unclassified 6005a on page 530 helped us identify Mary Garnsey as Ebenezer's wife. The South Salem church records of Westchester, NY linked us back to Captain Samuel St. John and his children.

Using the History of the Town of Marlborough, Ulster County, New York: From its Earliest Discovery by C.M. Woolsey, 1908 and available census records the remaining male children were identified: War of 1812 Private Ebenezer St. John, Jr., Samuel P. St. John, John St. John and Joseph St. John. A daughter Jane St. John was identified using a baptism record that has since been destroyed in a fire. This information was passed to me by cousins still living in the New York area. Joseph St. John is found on page 535 #6103.

Ebenezer St. John, Sr. was a [Revolutionary War Soldier for Ulster County, New York](#) in Hawthorn's Fourth Regiment under Captain Uriar Drake, Captain William Sammel and Lieutenant James Hawes. Efforts are currently underway to get Ebenezer admitted into DAR as a recognized soldier. All the information I have collected for Ebenezer St. John and his family can be found: <https://www.stjohngenealogy.com/getperson.php?personID=OSA0081A&tree=OSA0001>



Supporting our Genealogy & DNA project

Help us help each other by getting involved

By Suzanne St. John

The results of the St. John Genealogy & DNA project are free to access on our website. The site does not bombard visitors with advertising, and it does not profile users like social media giant, Facebook. Over the past 11 years, I have financed this website and I have researched for any St. John for free. I know everyone loves free stuff, but the reality is the site isn't free to me. I pay for the domain name, the hosting fees, membership fees to research sites, for digital copies of records, to transcribe records, for my internet provider, for my computer equipment, to buy books, and I give up thousands of hours of my life helping expand this site. Of course, I love to do this as most of us do so I am not asking for specific help. I know we all spend our money where we want to. But I have been asked many times by people I have helped how they can pay me, and I've always said I don't do this for money. It has occurred to me that I'm not helping the growth of this site to turn away offered money that I could use to pay for more records, etc. So, I decided to add a donation button to the website. This is completely voluntary, and I don't want anyone to feel guilty into contributing especially if you have paid for DNA testing and contributed in other ways. But, for those of you interested in financially helping the donation button is now on the site. Donated funds will go to furthering the growth of this project.

Besides financially, there are other ways to support our Genealogy & DNA project. The first is to share your direct lineage to help build the St. John family tree database. This database was created using Orline St. John Alexander's 1907 book. I preserved all St. John person ID numbers she used. With the help of the wider St. John community, the database now expands dozens of branches down to living persons. The goal of this database is to be the authority on all things St. John with data that is supported by primary records, personal information, and DNA evidence. Another way to support our project is to submit documents and information to the website for individual person records or families. The more people that get involved in building the database the more reliable our site becomes.

Speaking of unreliable sites, correcting sites like Wikipedia, WikiTrees, etc and pointing people back to our project helps the greater public. And lastly, another way to help is to send St. Johns and their descendants to our project no matter where you find them.



printed copy...

This newsletter is intended to be electronically distributed. Printing from the electronic pdf will not be permitted. If you want a high-quality-resolution- color print of the newsletter delivered to your home, then email stjohngenealogy@gmail.com with your name, address and remit \$26.00 for a one-year subscription. Subscription costs will cover ongoing research, ink, paper, postage and handling.

DNA isn't just for scientists

The St. John Genealogy & DNA project has been an ongoing DNA effort since 2002. Suzanne St. John became the volunteer administrator for the project in 2013.

In this role, she documented the lineages, where known, of each test subject. She has compared DNA results, compiled reports, and documented genetic family trees. Test subjects are identified by kit numbers not names.

FTDNA projects:

St. John Family DNA Project: 148 members.
<https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/st-john/about/background>

Glamorgan Wales Cousin Project: 449 members.
<https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/glamorgan-wales-cousins/about/background>

AncestryDNA share results with THEPOETZ



coming soon >>>

In the Next Issues

- *Living Trees Genealogy Network*
- *Sir William St. John, Knight*
- *The St. John Family Website*
- *Pedigree Reports*

Contact us at stjohngenealogy@gmail.com <https://www.stjohngenealogy.com>



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