

### Letter From the Editors

We are returning to the lines of William Armfield, Sr. starting with the children of his son William Armfield, Jr. "Little Billy". We first mentioned William Jr. in our December 2008 issue with the transcription of his will. William Jr. was born about 1748 in Pennsylvania; married Elizabeth Green 3 Apr 1772 in Guilford County, NC with bondsman being Charles Pope (North Carolina, Marriage Bonds, 1741-1868). William added a codicil to his will signed on 22 Jan 1833. He died sometime after this event. William and Elizabeth had ten children that we know of. In this newsletter we will highlight their oldest son **Jacob Armfield**.

*Connie & Joyce*

### Jacob Armfield

Jacob was born between 1775 and 1781 in Guilford County, NC. The little we know about Jacob comes from a few records we have found. A marriage bond for Jacob Armfield and Ann Stephenson gives their bond date as 11 Sep 1801 in Guilford County, NC with bondsman Isaac Armfield and witness Jo. Davis (Ancestry, North Carolina, Marriage Bonds, 1741-1868, Bond # 000053170). In the North Carolina, Marriage Collection, 1741-2004, their marriage date is the same date as the bond date. From the History of Guilford County, North Carolina by Sallie W. Stockard, 1902 and republished by the Guilford County Genealogical Society in 1983, p 98; "*Jacob, oldest son of William Jr., married Ann Stephenson, sister to the wife of his half-uncle, Joseph B*". We believe it is this Jacob who appears in the 1820 and 1830 census records of Guilford County, NC. In the 1830 Guilford County, NC census Jacob's family consisted of 2 males ages 5 thru 9; 2 males ages 15 thru 19; 1 male age 20 thru 29, 1 male age 50 thru 59; 1 female age 10 thru 14; 1 female age 20 thru 29; 1 female age 50 thru 59 for a total of nine free white persons. Jacob's oldest son Hiram was counted in a separate household in 1830 and Jane had married Stephen Osborne in February 1830. A Stephen Osborn appears in the Greene County, IN 1830 census in a household with one male age 20 thru 29 and one female age 15 thru 19. This very well could be Jane and Stephen. Jacob was named in his father's will of 4 May 1832 when he gave and bequeathed his son Jacob Armfield two dollars. By 1835, Jacob and sons Hiram, Isaac and Tilman were in Indiana and owned land.

The first records we found in Indiana for Jacob were land records. In Land Records of Madison County Jacob and his sons Hiram, Isaac and Tilman were recorded as owning land. "*Armfield, Jacob, p. 17 - residence of Wayne County, SE SW1/4 S 3, R 6, T 20 40 a. 11-14-1835.*" In a Certificate of the Register of the Land Office, Indianapolis, certificate #25184; "*Jacob Armfield of Wayne County Indiana deposited in the General Land Office of the US the certificate . . . whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the said Jacob Armfield . . . The South East quarter of the South West quarter of Section Three in Township Twenty, North of Range Six east in the District of lands subject to a sale at Indianapolis Indiana containing Forty acres.*" Signed by A. Van Buren, Sec'y for Martin Van Buren, President of the United States, 20 March 1837. In "Letters Left at Greensboro Post Office, 1838", appearing in the Greensboro Patriot on Friday, 5 Oct 1838 "*a list of letters*

remaining at Greensboro, N.C. on the 1st day of October 1838: A - Albright, Henry; Armfield, Jacob . . .". We have not found Jacob in an 1840 census record in Indiana.

Jacob and his wife Ann were deceased by 14 Dec 1850 as proved by a probate record found in the Madison County Courthouse, Madison, WI in 2005 by a private researcher. The document copy is very difficult to read and transcribe, however, Jacob was referred to as deceased and his wife was not mentioned in the document so we assume she predeceased her husband. With the help of fellow researchers, below is what has been deciphered to date.

*"Tilman Armfield and others to James Carlton*

*Know all men by these persons that are Tilman Armfield and Mary Ann Armfield his wife Isaac Armfield and Margaret Armfield his wife Hiram Armfield and Jane Armfield his wife Paris Armfield and Rebecca Armfield his wife Elam Armfield Mary Armfield and Stephen Osborn and Diana Osborne his wife James W. Crawley Susan his wife all heirs all heirs (repeated words) at law of Jacob Armfield deceased late of Madison County and State of Indiana in consideration of the sum of two (two/five) hundred and fifty dollars to us paid by James Carlton and received (?) and by these presents do ... release and forever quit claims unto the said James Carlton do give and assign forever all of our title interest and claims to the... and... in the following described real estate in the county and state aforesaid to wit: The southeast quarter of the south west quarter of section three (?) in township 20 north, range six east (?) in witness whereof we (?) set our hands and seals this seventh day of November (?) AD 1850." (probably one of the 'ber months so we went with November from the date below)*

*"Tilman Armfield*

*Mary Ann Armfield*

*Isaac Armfield*

*Margaret Anne Armfield*

*Hiram Armfield*

*Jane Armfield*

*Elam Armfield*

*Mary Armfield*

*Stephen Osborn*

*Diana Osborn*

*James Crawley*

*Susan Crawley*

*Paris Armfield*

*State of Indiana... county*

*... unassigned (?) an/are acting... of the... in and for said county.*

*...that this very...and personally appr?... Stephen Osborn James W. Crawley and Mary Armfield will acknowledge the foregoing...act (?) and deed for*

*the purpose therein...also. these...there personally appeared Susan Crawley wife of said James W. and Diana Osborne wife of the said Stephen who being by the ...separate apart and without the ...of her said husband and the ...of the ..conveyance Being made...to...they acknowledge that they signed...and delivered the forgoing conveyance of their ...accord and satisfaction and without any coercion or compulsion (?) from the're said husbands and that they are still satisfied therewith given under my hand and seal this 14 day of December 1850*

*George W Kern (?) Justice of the Peace*

*The State of Iowa*

*Des Moines County*

*I Oliver C. Wightman clerk of the district court of said county do hereby certify that on the 7 day of November 1850 before me came Paris Armfield and acknowledged that he executed the foregoing deed and conveyance of the uses and purposes therein set forth.*

*In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said court at Burlington in said county this day of Nov AD 1850*

*O. C. Wightman (title)" (probably clerk of court)*

Probate Office, Book 14, Page 159, Central Records Office, Madison County Courthouse, Madison, IN.

From information provided by an Indiana Room Librarian, Anderson Public Library. the Grantor/Grantee books are kept by the Madison County Recorder's Office in Anderson, Indiana. Due to a courthouse fire in 1880, most of the county's early records were destroyed.

The Pioneer compiled by Samuel Harden of Anderson, Indiana, publisher of "Early Times in Boone County, IND.," "History of Madison County, IND.," "Those I Have Met," "Pioneer," etc., Greenfield, Indiana, William Mitchell Printing Company, 1895 mentions early settlers in various townships. Pipe-Creek Township begins on page 40; "*The Pipe Creek settlement was know in the early settlement of the county, and many were not slow in winding their way to that part of the county; and no wonder, for there was much to encourage the pioneer here at an early day, and which proved true all along those sixty-five years, and from a handful of poor families it has grown to immense proportions. Elwood, a city of 8,000 souls, with its countless manufactories posing in every direction, is a contrast that makes one rejoice who loves Madison county. The broad fields have grown and spread out as far as the eye can reach, compared with the little "truck patch" of 1830. Frankton has not been lost in the shuffle by any means. On the contrary, it has become the fifth place of importance in the county. Here, as elsewhere, the first settlers are gone, but we will remember them in our further march to progression.*

*Following are the names of most of those families that came here fifty and sixty years ago. Glad to record this honored roll, and regret very much that some names will be lost shgt (sic) of, but this is the best that can be done in this little effort to preserve the names of the early settlers of Pipe-Creek township: Armfield famly. . ."*

It is our belief that Jacob and Ann were dead before the June of 1850 census was taken as neither have been found in census records. Their youngest son Elam was living with Levi & Elizabeth Keyes on the 14th of Aug 1850. In 1850 a nationwide epidemic (including the state of IN) of Yellow Fever may have claimed their lives. Did they die around the same time as the result of an epidemic? No death or burial record or site has been found even though several researchers have gone to Indiana to look for them. If any of our readers ever have the opportunity to do research in this area of Indiana, please keep Jacob and Ann in mind when looking for records. We have yet to find them in the 1840 Indiana census.

We know little of Ann Stephenson born about 1776 in Guilford County, NC and died before November of 1850. Her parents may have been John Stephenson (© 1750-1813) and his first wife Jane McClelland whom he married 6 Feb 1767 in Rowan County, NC. Ann's sister was Eleanor "Nellie" Stephenson (1788-1874) who married Joseph B. Armfield (1785-1880) about 1807 in Guilford County, NC. Abstracts of Deeds, Rowan County, NC, Books 20-24, have both Eleanor and Ann selling property to their half-brother Robert Stephenson on 30 Nov 1813 probably after their father's death in 1813. Ann's sister Mary "Polly" Stephenson (1780-1845) married #1 Isaac Armfield (c1780 - bef 29 Nov 1813) in 1802 and #2 Anuel Edwards in 1815. Ann's brother John Jr. died about 1820.

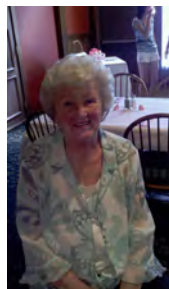
The earliest Armfield we have found in Indiana was Jonathan, 8 Apr 1794, the baseborn son of Jonathan Armfield (© 1774 – 1801) and Sarah Standley. He was in Washington County, IN during the 1820 census. He died in the cholera epidemic there on 1 Jul 1833 and was buried in the Crown Hill Cemetery in Salem, Washington, IN. Jonathan's father Jonathan would have been Jacob's uncle.

Children of Jacob and Ann Armfield were: Hiram (1802 - 1864), Alfred (c1803 - 1844), Diana (c1808 - bef1885), Jane (c1809 - bef1849), Tilman (1812-1861), Isaac (1814-1886), Susanna (c1816 - 1888), Paris John (1820-1878), Elam (1823-1875). We will review their lines in our next newsletter.

## **GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN**

Gwen Ann Corbett  
1938 - 2012

Gwendolyn Ann "Gwen" Evans Corbett born 24 Aug 1938 in Chicago, Illinois; passed on 7 Feb 2012 in Colorado after a long and hard fought battle with lung cancer. She married George Corbett on 25 Jun 1960 and had 2 children, June in 1956 and Lori Lou in 1962. She had four step-children: Kim, Raymond, Kristi and Mathew. Gwen was a very proud grandmother of seven and great grandmother of six. She prolonged her leaving this earth to be here for her last great granddaughter to be born on 1 Nov 2011. Gwen was overjoyed and sung "You are my Sunshine" to Sawyer and promised to be her Guardian Angel.



Gwen started her own business, Answer-All Secretarial Service, Inc, 48 years ago. Gwen was an avid spokeswoman for her industry and was a Past President of the Associated Telephone Answering Exchanges, Inc. She received the Association of Teleservices International Past President Hall of Fame Award as well as the Don Berry Award of Excellence.

Her mother, Marie Ruth Evans followed her to heaven in June 2012 and passed just a few days before her 98th birthday which was on June 14th.

Our family misses her and is reminded daily of her love and kindness.  
June Corbett., daughter, July 2012.

Gwen was the daughter of Wesley Evans and Marie Ruth Johnson. Marie Ruth was the daughter of Alfred Armfield Johnson (1885-1966) and his second wife Bessie Mabel Mathena (1893-1976). Alfred was the son of Wesley Armfield (1842-1898) and his second wife Mary Fruchtenicht (1862-1942). He changed his surname to from Armfield to Johnson about 1909 for reasons unknown. Wesley is down the line from Isaac Armfield to William Sr. to William Jr. to Jacob to Isaac.

## Family Lines and Queries

**Briane Armfield Carter** wrote that her father was Frederic Alexander Armfield, son of William Alexander Armfield (1873-1944). Frederic was born 23 Mar 1914 in Santa Rosa CA and died 25 Oct 1944. He married Nancy Thompson and they had two children, her sister and her, no sons. There are no living male heirs in her direct line. William Alexander or "Willie" was the son of Tyrus Alexander Armfield (1845-1926) and Sarah Margaret Beckett (c1846-c1923). He married Marie Grubb on 24 Dec 1904 and the couple resided in California. This line goes back through William Armfield Sr. and Jean "Jane" Hamilton. Their son Jonathan Armfield born c 1774 in NC; died 24 Jan 1801 in Guilford County. Jonathan had a son with Sarah Standley in 1794, Jonathan Standley Armfield who moved to Indiana and died there of cholera in 1833; married Elizabeth Dunning. Briane's line comes down through Jonathan and Elizabeth's son Hamilton Alexander (c1820-) and Jemima Linville in married in 1843. You can contact Briane at [bkcrx7@elp.rr.com](mailto:bkcrx7@elp.rr.com)

**Penny Cates** is looking to solve a family mystery. She feels there is a connection with her Lovett family and the Armfields. Her 3<sup>rd</sup> great grandmother was Letitia J Lovett (Lovitt). She was born in Guilford Co., abt 1838 and died 6 May 1906. She married first in 1856 to Alvin Forbis and they had one child Isaac before Alvin was killed in the Civil War. She married a second time to Hiram Ward in 1867 and had her 2<sup>nd</sup> great grandmother Julia Ward. She is trying to discover who Letitia's parents were. The 1850 Guilford County census record shows Letitia living with the William and Elizabeth Carroll family. Later census records indicate a William (Carrell) was living with Letitia and Hiram Ward and was recorded as her father. Was Letitia an orphan and went to live with the Carrolls (Carrels) or were William and Elizabeth Carroll any relation? We know their were Lovett and Armfield families living in the same area around the same time and intermarried. If anyone has any thoughts or information that may help Penny, please contact her.

**Jennifer Menze** is researching Parson/Pearson - Green - Armfield connections. Jennifer is a descendant of George Parsons (c1740-1833) and Ruth Green's son Evan (1775-1872) and his 2nd wife Anna Conine Graham, a Cherokee. His first wife was Patience Field. Patience may have died in child birth. There is an 1800 Salisbury, Guilford County census record for Evans Parsons with one male child under ten; one male aged 16 thru 25 and one female aged 16 thru 25. This could be George and Patience. George married secondly the widow Annie Conine Graham (c1807-1895), a Cherokee. This was her 2nd marriage as well. They had a large family and moved to Georgia when they won some land in the Cherokee land lottery. The Armfields had property adjacent to Parson property in the late 1700's. It is quite possible the Armfields came from Old Chester (now Delaware), PA. The Armfield name is found on the tax list in the same Old Chester townships as Mary Harry (married James Green) and her ancestors the Brintons, Harrys and Underwoods. Evan Harry changed his name to Harris and the Harris name is on Parsons deeds, suggesting

their land was adjacent. George Parsons married Ruth Green c 1764 and an Armfield married Elizabeth Green. Ruth and Elizabeth lived next door to one another. Jennifer is also looking for will, estate, court records in Randolph County as Quaker records indicate the Greens wound up in Randolph. jenamenze@gmail.com

## **Comments & Contributions**

**Juanita Kellerman** contributed information on her Patterson line. Her grandfather was Edwin Henry Patterson (1881-1962). Henry married Martha Moore (1854-1922) who was the daughter of Thomas Stewart Moore (c1827-1911) and Eliza Jane Armfield (c1833-c 1862). Eliza was down the line from Jacob Armfield through her father Hiram Armfield.

In the early 1920's Edwin Henry Patterson was a resident of Kansas City, KS and was an insurance salesman. Juanita has kept a pocket sized notebook that her grandfather used to keep track of his clients, of rent he received from homes he owned, of expenses, addresses. The notebook was "compliments of Baker & Lockwood Mfg. Company" in Kansas City, MO and has 1907 and 1908 calenders. One entry has the address for Edward Armfield, Oscar Van Valkenburgh and Mrs. Ed (Pearl Patterson) Price.

Before becoming an insurance salesman, Edwin and several of his family including two half-brothers Lorien (sic) and Samuel Patterson, his future wife and some of her family, his cousins Edward Armfield and Oscar Van Valkenburgh worked for the Baker & Lockwood Mfg. Co., manufacturers of tents and awnings. At the time of Edward Peter Armfield's death 31 Mar 1953 in Jackson County, MO his occupation was given as merchant of a Tent and Awning Mfg. Company. Juanita believes Edward may have bought out the Baker & Lockwood Company. The Pattersons, Armfields and Van Valkenburgh all had roots in Elwood, Madison, IN and moved from there to Kansas City, KS and MO area in the late 1870's and 1880's. If you would like to contact Juanita, let Joyce or me know.

## **Facebook**

For those of you with facebook accounts, there are a few Armfield groups. One is being managed by Diane Austin Armfield and is under the name The Armfield Family - History and Genealogy at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SDianeArmfield>. There are at least two other groups; The "Armfield Family" and "Families From the Armfield Side". It would be our recommendation that you obtain the permission of family members or the owners of any media before posting.

## **Resources**

The Southern California Genealogical Society announces the return of the popular Jamboree Extension Webinar Series, which provides web-based family history and genealogy educational sessions for genealogists around the world. Jamboree Extension Series webinars are conducted the first Saturday and third Wednesday of each month. Saturday sessions will be held at 10am Pacific time / 1pm Eastern time. Wednesday sessions will be scheduled at 6pm Pacific time / 9pm Eastern time. To join a webinar, most participants attend via computer with audio speakers or a headset. Those with a fast Internet connection (either broadband or DSL) will have the most satisfactory experience.

It is possible to phone in to listen to the presentation. Long-distance charges may apply. For more information contact: Paula Hinkel, Vice President, Southern California Genealogical Society, 417 Irving Drive, Burbank, CA 91504. [phinkel@pacbell.net](mailto:phinkel@pacbell.net)

### Those Interesting Virginia Armfields

In Virginia's Colonial Soldiers by Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck ISBN #0-8063-1219-X c1988, p 195; "Petition of **Daniel Armfield** who in or about 1740 in the expedition to Carthage received several wounds and is now disabled from his livelihood, 5 Dec 1769". Robert Stubblefield freed Daniel. It is possible that Daniel was an Indian slave.

The reference to **David Armfield**, H B (House of Burgesses), 1766-1769, p 314, vol 1740-1776, published by the VA State Library should read **Daniel Armfield**. Daniel was mentioned in the Journals of the House of Burgesses. Somewhere Joyce saw a copy of the original handwriting and recalls that it was very small. The way the name Daniel/David was written was a judgment call as to which name was correct. David being more common than Daniel, the authors likely made the decision it was David. We are planning on highlighting Daniel in a future newsletter. If anyone has information they would like to submit, please do.

**William Armfield** was a grantee of 400 acres given him by John Green in Gloucester County, VA in 1663. He sold this land two years later and disappears from records. In Gloucester County (Virginia) by Mary Wiatt Gray, 1936, pub. 1936 Press of Cottrell & Cooke, Inc. Richmond, VA chapter 13 Wars, she wrote of the Indian Massacre in 1644 and of Bacon's Rebellion in 1675 as well as a rebellion in 1663. In 1663 "indentured" servants in upper Gloucester planned to "*revolt and murder their masters and the inhabitants of as much of Gloucester as they could*". This rebellion would have been occurring while William was residing in Gloucester. In early records a William Armfield was in VA in 1657. He was one of 44 persons transported into VA by Gervase Dodson for which Gervase received 5200 acres in Westmoreland Co. At Dictionary.com an indentured servant is defined as a noun, American History; "*a person who came to America and was placed under contract to work for another over a period of time, usually seven years, especially during the 17th to 19th centuries. Generally, indentured servants included redemptioners, victims of religious or political persecution, persons kidnaped for the purpose, convicts, and paupers.*" William was imported into VA. Was he an indentured servant who earned his land as a result of completing his contract?

These people are intriguing and worth further investigation. Joyce remembers reading in a general reference book (long since forgotten) a mention of an Armfield who was preaching freedom for slaves. This Armfield may have been a Quaker. She wrote places including Quaker libraries and came up with negative results. We hope any of our readers with access to Virginia resources and records will look for these and other Armfields in VA.

Copies of all Armfield Newsletters are available at [www.armfieldnewsletter.com](http://www.armfieldnewsletter.com)

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