

THE PEACH TREE

*Celebrating 28 years of bringing the
Peach/Peachey heritage into homes
throughout the world.*

John H. Peach, Editor

221 Geronimo Rd., Knoxville, TN 37934

Ph: 865-675-5956

Email: Peachroot@aol.com

Peach Lending Library begins

On the Banks of the Rappahannock will be the first book offered for loan in my new lending library. If you want to borrow the book to read, just send \$7 to cover the shipping costs*, and I will send it to you. After reading it, just return it – just like you would do with a public library book.

I have chosen to take this bold step for several reasons. First, I realize that jobs are scarce, and money is lean in many households. Secondly, I believe with all my heart that each of my subscribers needs to know their history as it relates to colonial Virginia and early America. This book is a MUST READ! (*only available to those in the USA).

Thomas Jefferson's Dream that Captured the West

Our third president's father, Peter Jefferson, had a dream that someday he would capture the West. This would take him from his home in Virginia all the way to the Pacific Ocean. Four other men shared this dream and formed the Loyal Company in 1749 to achieve their goal. The King George II of England authorized a grant for this purpose, which he arbitrarily figured would be for 800,000 acres.

All five men who had the dream died, failing to have it accomplished. However, Peter Jefferson's son, Thomas, kept his father's dream alive. In order to see it fulfilled, he must first of all become President of the United States. Furthermore, he must have built strong ties with France. This was accomplished when he served as American Commissioner and Minister to France between 1784 and 1789.

One of his primary goals when he became President in 1801 was to capture the West - 44 years after his father's death. First, he must convince France to sell to the United States the Louisiana Purchase. This would in effect double the size of the United States. He made the deal for \$15 million (which came to about four cents an acre).

This is the title of the next book in the series of my historical novels. These will all be majoring on the genealogical records of the colonial Virginia families. I have now completed one-third of the new book, which should be available this time next year.

Next he must assign someone he trusted to make the expedition to reach the Pacific Ocean. Who better to do this (continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

than his personal secretary, Capt. Meriwether Lewis? He was the grandson of Col. Thomas Meriwether, one of the founders of the Loyal Company. When Lewis and Clark successfully completed their expedition, Jefferson and Meriwether Lewis both fulfilled their ancestor's dream.

This is the way the National Park Service sets the stage for this historic event.

"Before his inauguration on March 4, 1801, President Thomas Jefferson asked Meriwether Lewis, a 29-year-old career officer in the U.S. Army, to join him in the White House as his personal secretary. Jefferson knew Lewis and Lewis's family, as they were neighbors of his Monticello, Virginia, estate. Lewis, a staunch Jeffersonian Democrat, tested the loyalty of top Army officers to the President and reported back to Jefferson. Lewis was sent with sensitive messages to the ministers of foreign powers, and generally assisted the President. But most of all Lewis listened. Lewis absorbed Jefferson's ideas on geography, science, politics, American Indians, and diplomacy. It seems that Lewis was being groomed to lead Jefferson's expedition into the West."

Capt. Lewis wasn't expected to go alone, and so he chose his trusted friend, William Clark, to help lead the expedition party. By completing one of the greatest expeditions of all time, Thomas Jefferson finally fulfilled his father's dream.

This new book will trace Jefferson's life in a historical novel uniquely portrayed as never before. This will show his genealogy and his relationships with the Peacheys, Walkers, Glascocks and many more.

Peach Foundation for Kentuckians

Ray Peach and his wife, Brooke, have started a new project to help people restore neglected cemeteries. Feel free to check out their website at: <http://www.peachfoundation.webs.com/>
This is how they summarize their effort.

"The Peach Foundation is a non-profit corporation that conducts historic cemetery preservation work in Kentucky. We clean, repair, preserve, and archive abandoned or neglected cemeteries in Kentucky and list them with the Kentucky Historical Society and/or the National Register of Historic Places.

"We work to preserve cemeteries at no cost to the families or land-owners. We use donations to fund our work. Our efforts have saved historic cemeteries located throughout the state, including the preservation of Civil War Veterans' gravesites, so that many generations to come may learn from and remember our shared history.

"Do you know of a cemetery that has been neglected or forgotten, or do you need help preserving your family cemetery? If so, please contact us."

Ray says, "I have traced my male lineage from Daniel Peach b 1768 England d 1814 Virginia; George Henry Peach b 1813 VA d 1889 Kentucky; James Willis Peach b 1836 KY d 1895 KY; William Riley Peach b 1868 KY d 1895 KY; Alva Peach b 1894 KY d 1929 KY; Willard Lake Peach b 1914 KY d 1972 KY; William Riley Peach b 1935 KY d 1993 KY. My father was William Ray Peach and my mother was Margaret L. Vincent Peach. I am Raymond Dwayne Peach b 1958." Thanks to Ray and Brooke for a job well done.

Marblehead's ties to Thomas Jefferson

When Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence, 56 men agreed to "mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor." Two of these men were **Elbridge Gerry**, a native of Marblehead, Massachusetts, and Thomas Jefferson, a native of Monticello, Virginia.

In my new book, *Thomas Jefferson's Dream to Capture the West*, on page 76 you will see these two men were good friends ten years before they appeared together for the signing ceremony. I will put editorial notes in parentheses.

"On his way to Philadelphia, he (Jefferson) made a prolong visit to Annapolis, where he observed the Maryland State House and how the delegates there ordered their assembly. Then he made his way to Philadelphia...Tom was excited to see such a large city, and to him it would always be the most beautiful in the world. He was awestruck by the spacious harbor on the Delaware River, which accommodated hundreds of ships at a time.

"Next, Jupiter (his personal slave) drove Tom in his coach to New York, where he was welcomed by Elbridge Gerry. Gerry, a native of Marblehead, Massachusetts, had invited Tom to visit and lodge with him while they discussed politics. They were both thrilled with the repeal of the Stamp Act and shared their feelings of rebellion against England. Physically, they were in direct contrast, Tom standing at six foot two, while Gerry as a mere wisp of a man was much shorter. But philosophically, they were both patriots. Ten years later they would meet again to sign the *Declaration of Independence*."

Staffordshire Records reveal S.C. Heritage

Leslie Peach of England has invested his own time and expense for several days of intensive research at Staffordshire, England. His sole purpose was to find the earliest roots of the South Carolina Peach Branch, of which I am a part. This would have never been accomplished with such dedication and precision without him.

First of all, he is an astute Peach genealogist who verifies all his work through the College of Arms. (He would never give me erroneous or spurious information).

Secondly, he has spent his life working as a lawyer, dealing with the intricate details of the legal documents.

Leslie Peach dug into the records of Lichfield and Ellastone, Staffordshire and sent me an extensive chart he created beginning with Thomas Peache born ca. 1517 in Ellastone. Here's his basic findings.

"Overall then I would conclude that the foregoing chart details a strong probability that the English ancestors of the said John Peach who died at Kershaw, South Carolina on 7 Dec 1807, have been identified as far back as c1517 attributed to the birth of the aforesaid first Thomas Peache. This date may yet prove valuable in the quest to establish further Peache/de Peche ancestors. Further that there is a strong probability that this John accompanied his paternal uncle William, who also most likely acted in loco parentis when they immigrated to South Carolina c1775; and who died at an unknown date in that place." (This would mean William Peach of SC was the uncle of John Peach of SC).

Peaches in Canada

Martin Peach must have the patience of Job. He is a Canadian, who has been my subscriber for some 25 years, although very little has been found about his ancestry during this time. We recently had a breakthrough for him that I wish to report from another Canadian.

Martin's roots go back to Rev. John Sawford Peach b. 1811 Woodford, Northamptonshire, ENG. He immigrated to Carbonear, Newfoundland, dying there in 1879. Recently, Martin showed how he goes back three generations before that to Nicholas Peach, b. 1669 Northampton, England.

Dan Peach of Canada has recently joined our Peach Tree project and has provided new info. on this family, which is his also. He shows how he descends from Rev. John Sawford through his son, James Bennington Peach. He has sent me photos of the reverend, his family and his house in Carbonear, Newfoundland. He says about the home, "it's been declared a historic site by the government and is now preserved." Dan's aunt has visited there taking photos of the property, including the graveyard. The photos he sent me will be among my prized possessions.

Dan says James Bennington Peach married Ida Julia Foote b. 1863. They had the following children: Fredrick Thomas Peach; Anna Maria Peach; George Edward Peach (b.1891, d.1977); Elizabeth May Peach; Gladys Peach; Eva Peach; and Grace Peach.

Dan's has two WWI vets in his family – his great grandfather, George Edward Peach served during WWI, and his grandfather, Bob Hewitt Peach, who served in WWII in the RCAF (as an electrician) during the Battle of Britain.

Genealogist's Psalm

Genealogy is my pastime, I shall not stray.
It maketh me to lie down and examine half-buried tombstones.

It leadeth me into still courthouses;
It restoreth my ancestral knowledge.
It leadeth me in paths of census records and ship's passenger lists for my surname's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the shadows of research libraries and microfilm readers,
I shall fear no discouragement.
For a strong urge is within me;
The curiosity and motivation they comforteth me.

It demandeth preparation of storage space for the acquisition of countless documents.
It anointeth my head with burning mid-night oil;

My family group sheets runneth over.
Surely birth, marriage, and death dates shall follow me all the days of my life;
And I shall dwell in the house of a family history seeker forever.

(The above was sent to me by Jane Findlay, who is a primary contributor to the research on this author's two latest books.)

Peachtree Expansion

I wish to repeat what was in the last issue regarding a new emphasis for this newsletter. "Other surnames will be included that show relationships to the descendants of Guillaume Peche (a.k.a. William de Peche I). These become necessary in order to enable our ancestors to come alive during the early history of the U.S.A. Without these supporting families, all the Peaches and Peachey's in colonial Virginia are merely names, dates and relationships. They are simply skeletons without flesh." Therefore, we want to welcome aboard all others who are tied in some way to the Peach and Peachey families of colonial Virginia.

Kudos for the Book

In my 28 years writing about genealogy and authoring ten books, what follows is one of the most meaningful remarks about my work I have ever received. This is because it comes from a reputed DNA reputable genealogist, whom I've never met, and is not even a Peach descendant.

"Fantastic, John! I just got the book (*On the Banks of the Rappahannock*) in today's mail, so of course, I'm just browsing through it, and can't wait to start a slow, studied, reading. Thanks much. These incidents of history go a long way to explaining why families move to different areas and do just what they do. Cudos to you! I have been involved in DNA genealogy for many years now, in fact, am one of the starting members of the McCarthy/McCarty DNA study. You know that every McCarty family for the last 150 years has sought to make a connection with the illustrious Daniel, Dennis, Thaddeus family, however, UNLIKE YOURSELF--few have made it. Not for lack of trying, I would add, every McCarty family researcher worth their salt SEARCHED IN VAIN, many, unfortunately, even fabricating specious, unsupportable and nebulous connections that would somehow include them in this special group. Few, however, stood up to serious scrutiny. Dr. Wm. McCarty, himself, has unique DNA markers that make him and his ancestor Daniel a very distinct branch of the broader McCarty family. Keep up the good work! Sincerely, Russ McCarty"

For me to accomplish something researchers have failed to do for 150 years really makes my day! This helps substantiate that although it is a novel, it has creditable, accurate genealogy.

Another encouraging note:

"I wanted you to know how much I enjoyed your book. It can't have been easy to write the narrative when you were trying to also include necessary genealogical facts. It also could not have been easy to express in a creative way the repetitive sadness of life and early death at that time....Genealogy is so much fun. I would be interested in knowing how you were able to learn so many personal facts about these people. Thanks. Kasia Johnson"

Kasia's favorable comments are truly thoughtful and appreciative. In answer to her questions, I can only say it's "by the grace and power of God." As a genealogist, I never thought I would be able to write a novel. To make something into a story with dialogue without discrediting the true history was the greatest challenge I have faced in writing books. I'm thankful that she, for one, has recognized this.

When I received the following email, I was equally overwhelmed. Dorothy Asmus, an author in her own right, has a copy of every book I have written. I value her judgment highly, and so these comments mean a lot to me.

"Dear John, I have finished the book and I think you have a winner. The characters are still with me. I will be watering the plants or washing dishes or some such ordinary thing and find myself thinking about Mary or Sarah or some one of those I've just met as if I could stop what I am doing and go visit them. That must mean you did a good job on bringing them to life and the times they lived in. I'll be looking forward to the next book. Thank you. Dorothy"

I believe this book is a MUST READ for everyone interested in their nation's valuable foundation. If you can't buy the book, let me loan it to you. (see page 1)

Christmas Gifts

During this Christmas season, I am making a special offer on all my books. Save \$10 on each of my books ordered before the end of this year. You can still get *The Peach Heroes* for a \$20 savings. Look at the prices of the books below, and deduct the sale price from it. This is an ideal time to get gifts for members of your family that will be treasured forever. To be assured you will get these by Christmas, either use Paypal or let me know you are sending a check, and I will send your book(s) to you right away.

1. The Peach Genealogies, Volume I - \$39.95 + \$7 shipping. Latest book on the Southern Maryland Branch.
2. The Peach Genealogies, Volume 2 - \$49.95 + \$7 shipping. Latest book on the South Carolina Branch.
3. The Peach/Peachey Migrations, 1066-1990 - \$39.95 + \$7 shipping. Tracing all the Peach/Peacheys back to William de Peche I in 1066 A.D.
4. The Peach Tree Handbook, Vol. II, Southern Maryland Branch - \$29.95 + \$7 shipping. First book on this branch.
5. The Peach Tree Handbook, Vol.III, Marblehead - \$62.95 + \$7 shipping. Only a few copies left. When they are gone, this will not be reprinted.
6. The Peach Heroes - \$59.95 + \$7 shipping. This is 740 pages hard bound, fully indexed. All known descendants of the Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and Texas Branches are included. Also, detailed updates of the Marblehead, South Carolina and the So. Maryland branches are included.
7. The Peach/Peachey Bridges, Vol. I - \$29.95 + \$7 shipping. This book is in full color illustrations, fully indexed, and

shows how the Peacheys and Peaches descend from one common ancestor. This is an ideal book to help children, young people and adults alike to learn about their noble ancestry. It's subtitled "In the Presence of the King" because for many years wherever the British king was, our ancestor was nearby.

8. On the Banks of the Rappahannock - \$29.95 + \$7 shipping. This is my first historical novel. It's a captivating story of romance and mystery in colonial Virginia. This book is the first one offered in my new Peach Lending Library (see page 1). You can buy a copy for Christmas for just \$19.95.

Website/Peach Trees

You can access our website at <http://www.thepeaches.com/genealogy/> I plan on putting each of the upcoming *Peach Trees* online so that they will be accessible to all who enter the website. If you want a hard copy delivered to you for 18 months, please send \$15.

The Pilgrims Came

The Pilgrims came across the sea,
And never thought of you and me;
And yet it's very strange the way
We think of them Thanksgiving day.

We tell their story, old and true
Of how they sailed across the blue,
And found a new land to be free
And built their homes quite near the sea.

Every child knows well the tale
Of how they bravely turned the sail
And journeyed many a day and night,
To worship God as they thought right.

Author Unknown