

# THE PEACH TREE

*Celebrating 29 years of bringing the  
Peach/Peachey heritage into homes  
throughout the world.*

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## **Thomas Jefferson Roots of Religious Freedom**

My latest biographical novel is being published by CrossBooks, a subsidiary of LifeWay. The date of release should be sometime next month (Sept. 2012). The book will be over 300 pages, and it will retail for a maximum of \$29.95.

As you read this characterization of Thomas Jefferson, you will see into his heart and soul. Here, you will investigate a man who claimed, "I am a Christian," and who sought to prove it by his actions, as well as by his written mandates. He was the father of religious liberty, and he repeatedly tried to abolish slavery. I believe everyone, young and old, will be captivated by what I have researched.

## **The Peach/Peachey Bridges revisited**

Two years ago I published *The Peach/Peachey Bridges, Vol. I*. By giving it a volume number, I left the door open for a sequel to it. My passion is to begin with the bridges we created in this book and continue to seek to build the bridges from England to America, Australia, New Zealand and other parts of the world.

With the publication of that book, I created a concept for a team called "The Bridge Builders." All those who receive my newsletters and books are part of this genealogical group. Our mission is to build our bridges back to our original common ancestor, William de Peche I.

In this newsletter, each article I introduce will be referenced back to *The Peach/Peachey Bridges*. Each of you who have purchased this book will be able to look up the beginning of the bridge on the designated page of the book. If you don't have a copy, let me know, and I will send you one that is personally signed.

Hopefully, over the next year or two, we can complete many of these bridges and start the construction of many new ones. Our sole purpose is to try to establish proven connections between all the Peach and Peachey families who descend from that Peche knight under William the Conqueror in 1066 A.D.

My last book, *On the Banks of the Rappahannock*, built a bridge from Dr. Thomas Walker, son of Susanna Peachey, back line by line 21 generations to William de Peche I. Walker was the guardian of Thomas Jefferson, which led to the creation of my soon-to-be-published book on the third president of the USA.

## Gone to their Maker

**Anna Kellogg Peach** went to meet her Lord on March 19, 2012. She was the step mother of yours truly. Born Jan. 7, 1917, she passed away at 95 years old in Orangevale, California. My father, William Harding Peach, preceded her in death on Oct. 16, 2005. She will be missed by all who knew her.

**Nancy Baker Williams** passed onto Heaven's shores on May 13, 2012, in Camden, SC at the age of 72. She was the beloved sister of **Jean Carol Pierce** of Memphis, TN and the daughter of **Fannie Peach Baker**, who graciously hosted one of our national Peach reunions held in SC. Nancy, of the **South Carolina Branch**, now is enjoying her great reunion with her mother in Heaven.

**Dorothy Pearl Peach Linkins**, a longtime subscriber of the Peach Tree, passed away on Sept. 11, 2010. Born on Sept. 21, 1926, she died just prior to her 84<sup>th</sup> birthday. Her daughter, Luci Smith, recently informed me of her mother's departure. Luci said Dorothy "always looked forward to getting the Peach Tree. I would like to renew the subscription." Luci will now carry the banner of her mom's passion for family genealogy. They are from the **Kansas Branch**.

**Watha Evon Peach** was born July 18, 1932 in Ohio Co., Kentucky, and passed away March 11, 2011, in Chattanooga, TN. She is survived by her husband, Clarence S. Durand and her daughter, **Joan Evon Dickens**, who sent me this notice. Joan, a member of the **Kentucky Branch**, was gracious when she wrote, "Thank you for all your hard work you do on the Peach family." She also wants to carry the banner of her family genealogy.

## Delaware Bridge

The Delaware Peach Bridge is summarized on p. 123 of *The Peach/Peachey Bridges*. **Charlotte McDowell**, who is mentioned on that page, has created an extensive and complete genealogy on her Delaware Branch, which she has sent me.

I first came in contact with this family when I was graciously received into the home of William Paul Peach, Jr. and his wife, Catherine Louise Brown. That was in the early 1980s in Newark, DE. They opened the windows of this branch to me, showing me records and the homes and churches of their family's history.

Both have deceased, but their descendants have picked up the baton, carrying on their genealogical quest. One of their sons, Bill Peach, married **Mindy Pair**. She joined the Peach Tree Project last December by buying a *Peach/Peachey Migrations* book. Since then, **Bill Langworthy**, Mindy's first cousin by marriage, joined the arena.

Lately, **John Brown Peach**, son of Wm. Paul and Catherine, has joined the effort big time. I got to know John when he was in New Jersey in the early 1980s. He was a recipient of much of the vital records of his family, which he so willingly shared with me. However, his interest in genealogy was minimal until recently. Now he is a house of fire.

John is now searching all his records and mine to find the rich history of his Delaware Branch. Since his ancestors were some of the earliest settlers in Delaware and since their records have been well preserved, he has something to be excited about. He will be traveling from his home in Maryland to see me in Tennessee to bring these records together.

## No. Maryland Bridge

The Northern Maryland Peach Bridge is found on pp. 104-112 of *The Peach/Peachey Bridges*. Interest in this family's genealogy has lied dormant for many years. **Francis Xavier Peach** was the standard bearer during the 1980s. Although there has been no one to fill his shoes, several have reignited the flame lately. One of these sent me a letter recently.

"Hi. I am an English professor at Mount St. Mary's College in Emmitsburg, MD. I recently did a Google search on Sr. Mary's Ignatia Peach. I was interested in her because my grandmother did a painting based on one of her poems, called "To Our Lady of the Atomic Age." I am trying to put together my grandmother's memoirs and I wish to reproduce both the painting and the poem. I saw your notice of Sr. Peach in issue 36 of your newsletter: <http://www.thepeaches.com/genealogy/NL36.htm>, and wondered what year the obituary was published (also what year she died). If you had the date of the obituary that would be great because I can then look it up. Please let me know. Your web site is wonderful and very well done! Thanks, Pete Dorsey"

One can go to p. 231 of *The Peach/Peachey Migrations* to read her beautiful poem, "The Requiescat." She was the daughter of James A. Peach and Josephine Oliver, known affectionately as "Aunt Bodie." Among their nine children came three daughters, who became nuns in the Roman Catholic Church. Sister Mary Ignatia was born Feb. 12, 1902, and went to her heavenly reward Nov. 30, 1968.

Her sister, Mother Mary Aloysius, born Lucy Christina Peach, wrote a tribute to Pres. John F. Kennedy found on p. 235 of *Migrations*. Kennedy's wife, Jacqueline, said this poem "was the greatest honor anyone had given her husband."

## M'head Teen Project

**Zeke Peach** of Marblehead sent me the notice of a commendable project his granddaughter, **Sarah Peach**, has spearheaded as a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student at her local school. Go to her website at: <http://informagainsthumantrafficking.weebly.com/index.html> to find out more about her passion against HUMAN TRAFFICKING! Our hats are off to young people like this whose goal is to make our world a better place to live. Let's give them our prayers and support.

May 31, 2012

Dear Friends and Family,

We, Sarah Peach and Vanessa Freedman, are 7<sup>th</sup> grade students at the Marblehead Veterans Middle School. One of our assignments this year in Social Studies class was to research a worldwide problem that was meaningful to us. This assignment is called the "Do Something" project. The objective of this project is to help our cause in any way possible. Together, we decided to raise awareness for the problem known as human trafficking.

If you're not familiar with this issue, the definition of human trafficking is "the recruitment, transport, transfer, harboring, or receipt of a person by such means as threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud or deception for the purpose of exploitation." In a simpler term, human slavery. There are two main forms of trafficking: sex trafficking and labor trafficking. Women and children under the age of eighteen are more subject to sex trafficking, while men are more subject to labor trafficking. Though some may not realize it, human trafficking happens all over the world. However, this problem is more evident in developing countries, poverty filled countries, and countries that are at war. Human trafficking has not just recently become a problem. It has been occurring since people have been able to physically, economically, or politically dominate another person; basically, it has been going on forever."

## Newfoundland Bridge

Chapter 12 of *The Peach/Peachey Bridges* is devoted to the Dorset Peach Bridge. Although it majors on the **Marblehead Branch** in Massachusetts, it also forms the setting for many other branches. One is that of **Newfoundland, Canada**. In *The Peach/Peachey Migrations*, I suggested two Newfoundland Peach Branches with different origins. The first came from Andrew Peach of Somersetshire, England. The second came from Rev. John S. Peach of Northamptonshire, England.

**Iris Woodworth** of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, writes about a third branch from Newfoundland, which is hers.

"The family story is that "three brothers came from **Dorset** - James, Henry and George", and turned up in Newfoundland maybe ca 1830. Our line in Newfoundland possibly comes from Henry or George and there would have been a Charles and a William in the line somewhere, maybe above them. Our Great Grandfather Henry's brother was named Charles and our Great Grandfather named his son, our Grandfather, Charles. And both brothers, Henry and Charles, named a son: William Henry and Henry William. My mother's brothers were Hedley, Fletcher and Malcolm. Malcolm was named for my grandmother's brother, but don't know about the other two, whether they were names from either side of the family. My grandfather Charles was born in the late 1800s. We don't know what happened to James and George Peach."

Meanwhile, **Ronda Dwyer** from Newfoundland, Canada, sent me a query about her ancestry. Can anyone help her find how she connects to other families in her province?

"I have been trying to find info. on my great great grandmother Sarah Peach for many years. I even had DNA test with family

tree DNA. Still unable to find any peach ancestry relations. Grandmother Mary hynes. Her parents. James hynes serah whelan. Serah parents. Thomas whelan and serah peach. Married in red island Newfoundland placentia bay. Would you have any info that might help? Or direction..? Thanks Ronda"

## Book Sale Continues

*The Peach Heroes* that sells for \$59.95 is what I call my monster book. I am offering a \$20 discount off this book simply because I overstocked it. This is only for a LIMITED TIME. 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.

*The Peach/Peachey Migrations, 1066-1990*. This book sells for \$39.95, but I have some embellished copies that I will sell for a \$10 discount. The only thing wrong with them is they have a few discolored marks on the edges of the pages. Please include \$7 for shipping.

*The Peach/Peachey Bridges, Vol. I* - \$29.95 + \$7 shipping. This book is hard bound, with full color illustrations and fully indexed. This will be the standard textbook used in all present and future Peach Trees.

*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.

## So. Maryland Bridge

The Southern Maryland Peach Bridge is found on pp. 117-121 of *The Peach/Peachey Bridges*. **Kathy Lowry** of Plano, Texas, sent me a copy of the will of **Joseph Mitchel** of Prince Geo. Co., MD. It was dated June 4, 1748, and probated in 1752. It was witnessed by **Joseph and Mary Peach** and John Varney. If this is any interest to you, please let me know.

**Dorothy Asmus** of Roseville, CA, reported that they had a large gathering of So. MD Branch Peaches in the Golden State recently.

**Brandi Peach** has joined our Peach Tree Project. She is the great granddaughter of Harley "Teeter" Peach and Evelyn Bell Manning. This is the Indiana twig of the So. MD Branch. Welcome, Brandi.

Recently, I heard from a fellow off the same Indiana trig, who was new to me. He is **Michael Seymore Peach** of Raleigh, North Carolina. He is the great grandson of Joseph Nathan Peach. Joseph had a son, Henry Seymour Peach, who in turn had a son, Herman Henry Peach. Years ago he bought my Peach/Peachey Bridges book and has been working diligently trying to build his bridge back to William de Peche I.

### Act! for America

In the past year, yours truly has founded the Knoxville chapter of Act! for America. This is a national organization that stands against the institution of Sharia law in America and the infiltration of radical Muslims. For more info., go to <http://www.actforamerica.org/welcome/>. If you are involved with this organization in your area, please let me know.

## South Carolina Bridge

You can find this branch under construction on pp. 125-126 of *The Bridges*. In the last Peach Tree, I sent out a query to help **Joan Bryant** find her husband's ancestry. Immediately, **Hamp Williams** of Jackson, TN, came to her rescue. He writes, "You mentioned Joan Bryant whose husband, Adam is a grandson of Rebecca Jane Peach. Rebecca Jane is the sister of my grandmother, Frances Caroline Peach. I can help them in finding ancestors and would enjoy it." Hamp represents what this Peach Tree Project is all about – helping others. I know she got what she needed.

**Robert Peach**, great grandson of Rev. **William Strickland Peach** of Tennessee, brought up an interesting observation. William's first wife, Sophronia, died July 7, 1909, according to her tombstone. But he reportedly married his second wife, Catherine, in 1907, before his first wife died. Does this seem probable???

**Betty Hooper**, the granddaughter of **Benjamin Franklin Peach** of Tennessee, says her grandfather's wife was Ollie Heughan rather than Ollie Wright. Betty's mother was Mary Frances Peach, who married Howard Cooper. She just found out about our Peach Tree Project and is thrilled! Welcome aboard, Betty.

**Charles Deal** of Florida has been puzzled by **Sarah "Susan" Hunter Peach**. He writes, "I have tried to figure out who she was and where she was from. I am a descendant of Henry C. West and Sarah through their daughter, Millie Caroline West, who was my grandmother's mother. My grandmother was Bessie Irene Horton. Bessie's first child, Willie Mae Horton, was my mother. Can you help us find the identity of this Sarah Hunter Peach?"

## Dorset Peach Bridge

Once again our attention is directed to Chapter 12 of *The Peach/Peachey Bridges*. We have tons of new data available from the county of Dorset in southeastern England that much time and attention will be devoted to it in the next year. I believe there will be many new branches discovered there, and with the new data, I can solidify the existing known branches.

The **Marblehead Branch** is a proven commodity of the Dorset Bridge, as shown in Chap. 12. Now, we see that the third **Newfoundland Branch** has roots in Dorset. Which one will be next? I will be working behind the scenes to find out.

Speaking of Marblehead, Rea Trotter contacted me on genealogy.com with the following query: "I have some 3 family letters from 1855 and 1856 written by James Trotter to his brother John. James [b. 1838] was orphaned and lived David Jewell family in Newbury, Vermont since he was 9 years old. David's wife, as you know was Christian Peach. There are references to the Peach family. I am trying to sort out these people and was hoping you might be able to help. Here is the context: 'Mr. John Peach is well and all the rest Of the folks. They expect Ellen home next week. They have sent for her... Hugh Peach is here bording.' Trying to work this out: Hugh Peach referenced in James' letters probably the Hugh Gardner Peach, born Dec. 31, 1831 in Newbury; son of James Peach and Agnes 'Nancy' Gardner. James Peach is a brother to Anna Peach who married Solomon Jewell. Solomon's brother David Jewell married Christian Peach, sister to James Peach and Anna Peach. The reference to Ellen Peach - possibly the one b. 1837, daughter of John Peach and Betsy Bailey?? And how does this John Peach tie in with the the siblings James, Anna, and Christian Peach? There is a message to John Trotter from Mrs. David Jewell [Christian Peach]: "Mrs. David Jewell sends her best respect to you and be a good boy and shun bad company and right to her." [Nov. 15, 1856 letter]

I would be grateful for any help. Thank you."

## Derbyshire Bridges

On pp. 121-122 of *The Bridges*, I refer to two known branches from Derbyshire, England. One is that **Frances Peach Ellis** of Cincinnati, OH, USA. The other is that of **Wendy Stringer** of Australia. We have great news about the development of this county.

**David Winscoe** of England has been actively working with yours truly to locate and share the records of Derbyshire. This will help us substantiate the two branches we have already identified, as well as build new bridges. What makes this more exciting is that the neighboring county is Staffordshire, from which the South Carolina Branch descends.

**Leslie Osman Peach**, also of England, to whom *The Bridges* book was dedicated, has been helping me with our Staffordshire roots. Those of Derbyshire share the same family roots as those of its neighboring counties.

We are eternally indebted to these two men and others in England, who so graciously spend arduous hours in research and willingly share their findings. Our thoughts have been centered on England recently with the Summer Olympics being held in London. When watching these exciting events, my mind reflected on the special moments we shared together on our Peach Heritage Tour of England in 1990.

Speaking of which, **Jennifer Peach Schultz** wrote about descending from the noted geologist, **Charles William Peach**, born in 1800 in Northamptonshire. This Florida, USA resident says Peach's famous gold nugget he reportedly discovered can't be found. Her father and she searched all

over London for it, all in vain.