

Esbridge Family News

152 Pine Creek Drive
Hampton, VA 23669-1244

August
2020

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- The 2020 Annual Meeting will be held online at 10am EDT October 3, 2020
- If you have not paid your membership dues, please send the \$15 payment to:

Ann Campbell
2311 Dolfield Dr
N Chesterfield, VA 23235
- Children, grandchildren, births, marriages, divorces, deaths—we would love to have your latest information to include in the Historical Archives.

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Dear EFA Cousins and friends,

IT IS REUNION TIME!!

But as we have approached the time for the gathering of the Esbridge Family Association for our reunion and annual meeting, your officers have decided that a gathering in person would not be prudent for our group at this time. Our cousins that had made reservations have been notified so that they were able to cancel. We will try something different which we hope will be of interest to many of you. We are planning a Zoom style meeting on October 3rd at 10:00 a.m. (Eastern Daylight Time). We hope this will give many of you the opportunity to join in from your home. You will be able to participate in the meeting and hear our speaker. An agenda as well as the opportunity to ask questions in advance of the day of the meeting will be sent to those who would like to register their intent to join the meeting. This could be a good time to gather your family to join this group together to learn more about the Esbridge Family Association.

The facilities at Stratford Hall and the opportunity to meet there has been reserved for next year in October. Hopefully we will be able to enjoy all that this site has to offer then. The week-end of October 8-10 2021 is being held for us. You may actually make room reservations at any time as you make plans for that time.

We look forward to hearing from you and for some of you actually seeing your faces. Others may join by phone only and we will just hear you. Others may wish to text messages as time allows. Lets explore the possibilities of the technology available and enjoy our time together.

Sincerely,

Carolyn

Carolyn Knight
President

Remember to keep your information up-to-date. Please send changes or corrections of personal information of family lineage to:

Carolyn Knight
152 Pine Creek Drive
Hampton, VA 23669-1244
E-mail: crknight@cox.net

FROM YOUR TREASURER

2020 has brought many twists and turns for all of us! We are so disappointed that we cannot meet in person at historic Stratford Hall in October, but we welcome the opportunity to experiment with a virtual format for our annual meeting. We know that EFA has some catching up to do in the technological realms, so if you have knowledge in the areas of web design, giving platforms, search engine optimization, social marketing, membership management software, etc., the association needs your input!

Please note the revised registration form includes our e-mail, website address and social media accounts. We need the ability to communicate with you electronically so thank you for making sure you fill out your e-mail address. We will never share any of your personal information.

Your membership expiration date is on your return address label. If no date appears, we would be grateful if you would begin paying your family dues in 2020. Any questions? Contact: Ann Campbell:

eskridgefamily association@gmail.com

2020 REUNION TO BE HELD VIRTUALLY !! SATURDAY OCTOBER 3RD AT 10:00 AM EDT

The Eskridge Family Association was founded in 1937 with our first reunion in Fredericksburg VA. We appear to have met at least once every year since then, some years twice. So this will be a new experience for us !! SEND AN E-MAIL TO: ESKRIDGE FAMILYASSOCIATION @ gmail.com to register. There is no COST to participate. REGISTER BY TUESDAY SEPT 29

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 10:00 AM** **Opening with prayer and introduction of officers**
followed by **Attending member self introduction**
- 10:20 AM** **Business meeting**
- 10:40 AM** **Speaker: Louise Nottingham will talk with us about her**
ancestor Sarah Eskridge Carr — who may have been the sister
of Col. George Eskridge
- 11:10 ish AM** **Question and Answer session**
- 12 Noon** **Adjournment**

Times are approximate and are subject to change.

Do you have questions of general interest for the association? To make the meeting flow smoother, submit by e-mail prior to the meeting to EskridgeFamilyAssociation @ gmail.com and we will do our best to answer.

FROM YOUR HISTORIAN

1. We have recently completed an fairly large update of Burdette 3 thanks to Coz Donna Lee Thomas Dudley who found that she is a double Eskridge — being descended from Richard 3 and Burdette 3. Her information gave us a whole new branch to add to Burdette — descendents from Jonathan J 5 Thomas — and there are a bunch of them! Thanks Coz Donna!!
2. Coz Cyndee and I continue to work on Richard 3 Eskridge — it is an enormous undertaking!! If you have any information you would like to share, get in touch with us.
3. We could use some help updating our books. The internet has exploded with new information so if you feel confident in your genealogical abilities and want to help out — even if it is only a branch — please reach out!!
4. Be sure you send us news about your family — births, deaths, marriages or other happenings that you want the family to know about. Use the eskridgefamilyassociation@gmail.com

The newsletter has a new way of being folded. Before you think we are crazy, it was required by the US Post Office. — yes, that one! We had a fair number of newsletters returned or delayed because they want us to have the fold at the bottom so that it will run through their sorting machines better. Most of the complaints came from the western part of the US.

NEW MEMBERS

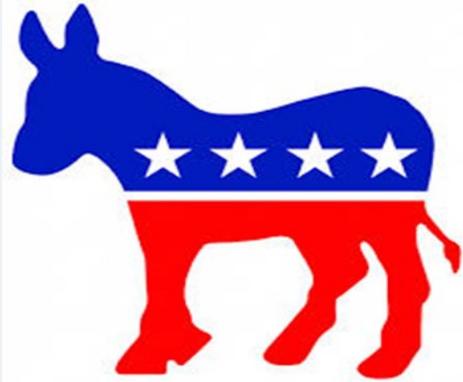
Jo Ann W. Jenkins — Rich 3
Anne H Brown

Katherine R Davis
Christopher Garrigues —Burd 3

Ann G Campbell	\$50.00 in memory of Bill & Ellen Groseclose — History Fund
Katherine R Davis	\$60.00 Eskridge Oak Fund In memory of Elsie Towson Coble
Beth Zeiss	\$20.00
E Stan Eskridge Jr	\$500.00 in memory of E. Stan Eskridge Sr to the History Fund
Sarah Lofton	\$25.00
Robert Lloyd Eskridge	\$70.00 E Stan Eskridge History Fund; Website fund
Daryl Brace	\$100.00 in memory of Clarence Lafayette Eskridge History Fund and Website Fund
Daniel A Eskridge	\$50.00 in memory of Ira Lee Eskridge
John S Eskridge	\$15.00 in memory of Harold E Eskridge
M/M Ned Hannum	\$35.00 in honor of James Davis Seaton Leachman
M/M Michael Eudy	\$40.00 in memory of Jack D Eskridge
Nancy L Case	\$35.00 in memory of Kathryn E Weed

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IT'S ELECTION TIME — WE THOUGHT YOU MIGHT ENJOY A COUPLE OF ESKRIDGE POLITICAL STORIES



JOHN RIFE 9 PETTY (Mary V 8 Alice 7 Rich E 6 Thos L 5 Rich 4 Burd 3 Sam 2 Geo 1) was born 9 April 1939; died 29 September 2011 Decatur GA. Buried US Military Academy Cemetery.

Upon graduation from the Gainesville High (GA) in 1957, John received an appointment to the US Military Academy at West Point. During his last year at the Point, he was selected to march in John Kennedy's inauguration where President Kennedy challenged a generation to "ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country." John graduated in 1961 as a 2nd Lieutenant of Infantry. Thus began a professional career spanning 5 decades of service. After graduation, John earned the Parachutist Badge and Ranger Tab and joined the 101st Airborne. In October 1962, while serving with the 101st Airborne 1 LT Petty led a detachment of soldiers who helped support the integration of the University of Mississippi. Just weeks later in the middle of the night, John stood ready in southern Florida to parachute into CUBA if needed during the Cuban Missile Crisis. John left the Army in 1964 to earn a MA in International Relations from the University of Tennessee and pursue a career in government service, joining the Central Intelligence Agency in 1966. Over a 15 year career with the CIA, John trained anti-communist forces in Laos from 1968 to 1973, served at the American Embassy in Singapore from 1975 to 1977, and served at various domestic assignments. John resigned from government service in 1981 in order to put down some roots in his native state. Over the next decades, John continued to serve others using his organizational and leadership skills in various non-profit organizations. As Executive Director of the Atlanta Enterprise Center for 18 years, John built a successful job training and placement program for Atlanta's homeless. A remark by a friend captures John's spirit of perseverance: "He was a marvel of patience bordering on stubbornness; optimism without doubt and an obvious love for the downtrodden that Christ would have admired."

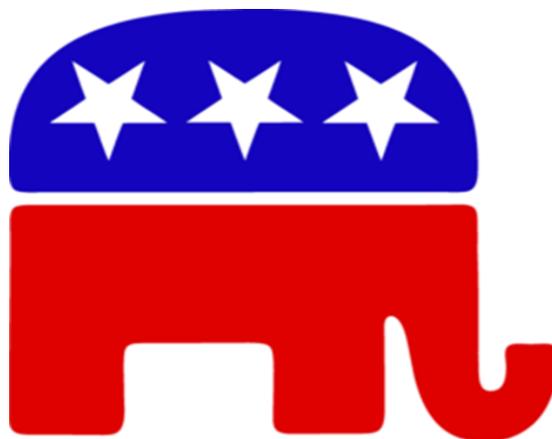
Taking up the challenge from his Commander in Chief, John served his country and his fellow humankind — striving against Communism, racism, homelessness. Found among John's personal notes written during his last few days battling cancer is the following statement: "My goal for the rest of my life is to serve my fellow human kind and to make a difference in as many lives as possible."

He left 2 children: Page 10 Petty (Sheperd) and John R 10 Petty Jr and 3 grandchildren. He is Buried at the United States Military Academy Cemetery in West Point NY.

Rest in Peace Cousin John!

REV THOMAS EDWIN 8 LOPER (Alma O 7 Wm L 6 Jon J 5 Reb 4 Burd 3 Sam 2 Geo 1) was born 18 November 1925 Omaha, NE; died 27 September 2918 Jenison, Ottawa Co MI. Buried Oakwood Cemetery, Kent Co MI.

“There is no greater man than one who lives by his convictions and cherishes those entrusted to his care, and Tom Loper was such a man. The foundation of his family, Tom led by way of example through faith and unconditional love. In all ways, Tom looked to his Lord for guidance and direction. He used his God given gifts to touch the lives of all he came in contact with, and his kind servant’s heart resulted in life long friendships along the way.” He will be deeply missed and fondly remembered.



Tom was a true “child of the depression”, growing up poor. He loved sports, but childhood rheumatoid arthritis stifled any desire to actually play sports. He grew up in Tacoma Washington. After giving his life to the Lord, he decided to attend the Moody Bible Institute and studied the mission field. He graduated in 1952 and was ordained as a minister that same year at the Tacoma Baptist Church in Tacoma, WA.

He married Angela Barker on 22 August 1952 at Trinity English Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids, MI. Immediately after their marriage, they left for California to work with migrant workers. Their church assignments took them to Battle Creek, MI, Ann Arbor, MI, Cedarville, OH, Three Rivers, MI, Elmira NY and finally back to Grand Rapids, MI

Tom was an avid reader of historical novels and faithfully studied God’s word. In his free time, he enjoyed planting flowers and vegetables in his garden. He also liked college football, especially the University of Michigan. You could often find him in his man cave, working on complex crossword puzzles. He watched Fox News on TV, and he absolutely loved southern gospel music. Quite handy, he took time to tinker in his workshop. There was a whimsical side of Tom, too, as he loved collecting crazy socks and silly hats.

It started with the hats and he collected for years.— they matched his crazy sense of humor. At his death, he had 52 pairs of socks — 2 drawers full plus shoe boxes stored in his closet with special holiday-themed ones. He wore striped socks, argyle socks, hot dog socks, Disney socks . . . Presidential socks!!

He made a donation to the Republican National Committee and they sent him a pair of George H W. Bush socks as a thank you. From that time, Tom committed himself to always having fun with his feet.

It was only fitting that the family brought the entire collection of socks and hats for the visitation. His socks hung around his casket and from clotheslines around the room. His hats were on display on tables and in the flower arrangements. The pallbearers wore Tom’s socks at his funeral and all of his grandchildren and great grandchildren got to pick out a pair and one of his hats to remind them of their grandpa.

Rest in Peace Cousin Tom!

Adj — (of a disease) prevalent over a whole country or world Noun — an outbreak of a pandemic disease.

What is the difference between an epidemic and a pandemic? An outbreak is called an epidemic when there is a sudden increase in cases. As Covid 19 began spreading in Wuhan, CHINA, it became an epidemic and then, because it spread across several countries and affected a large number of people, it was classified as a pandemic on 11 March 2020 by the World Health Organization. On 13 March 2020, a national emergency was declared in the United States concerning the Covid 19 outbreak.

Covid 19 is thought to be spread most often by respiratory droplets. Although the virus can survive for a short period on some surfaces, it is unlikely to be spread from domestic or international mail, products (including food) or packaging. Antibiotics don't work because they are for bacteria, coronavirus is a virus. Products with at least 70% alcohol are effective against it, as are solutions of bleach and water 1/3 cup bleach to 1 gallon of water. It is found in feces and in urine so personal hygiene and bathroom cleanliness are important. Sex is safe between healthy and consenting adults! — source: CDC

BUT AS STUDENTS OF HISTORY, WE ARE DRAWN TO COMPARE THE CURRENT PANDEMIC WITH THE 1918 INFLUENZA PANDEMIC

As we look at family histories of the 1918-1919 time period, we have seen lots of families who were affected by the so called Spanish Flu. In some cases, people died during that time period and we wonder if it was the flu that did them in.



The 1918 influenza pandemic was the most severe pandemic in recent history. It was caused by an H1N1 virus with genes of avian origin. Although there is not universal consensus regarding where the virus originated, it spread worldwide during 1918-1919. In the US, it was first identified in military personnel in the spring of 1918.

It is estimated that about 500 million people or one – third of the world's population became infected with this virus. The number of deaths was estimated to be at

least 50 million worldwide with about 675,000 occurring in the US alone. Mortality was high in people younger than 5 years old, 20-40 years old and 65 years and older. The high mortality in healthy people, including those in the 20-40 year age group, was a unique feature of this pandemic.

While the 1918 H1N1 virus has been synthesized and evaluated, the properties that made it so devastating are not well understood (sound familiar?) With no vaccine to protect against influenza infection and no antibiotics to treat secondary bacterial infections that can be associated with influenza infections, control efforts worldwide were limited to non-pharmaceutical interventions such as isolation, quarantine, good personal hygiene, use of disinfectants, and limitations of public gatherings, which were applied unevenly.

At the same time period, World War I was taking place. The conditions of World War I (overcrowding and global troop movement) helped the 1918 flu spread. When the US entered the war in April 1917, we sent 378,000 armed forces. A national draft was established and there were 32 large camps, each housing 25,000 to 55,000 soldiers. Outbreaks of the flu-like illness were first detected in the US at Fort Riley Kansas. In October 1918 alone, the US estimated 195,000 deaths from the flu. Chicago closed theaters, movie houses and night schools and prohibited public gatherings. San Francisco required the public to wear masks. New York City reported a 40% decline in shipyard productivity. The end of World War I enables a resurgence of influenza as people celebrate Armistice Day and soldiers begin to demobilize. At the Versailles Peace Conference, while negotiating the end of World War I, President Woodrow Wilson collapses. Some speculate he was weak from influenza which was still rampant in Paris.

The H1N1 virus continues today in a different form. What can we learn from the 1918 Spanish Flu Pandemic?

CALLING ALL GENEALOGISTS — WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

From time to time, we run across some Eskridge cousins that we cannot connect to the family tree and any assistance you can give us on this one will be greatly appreciated.

In the first instance, some years ago, Coz Larry Stephen Wilcox approached us with a question about his family. Coz Larry was born 24 March 1942; died 7 April 2018 Adairsville, Barton Co GA.

Before his death, Coz Larry sent us a treasure trove of pictures from his family and we would like to return them to a family member if you will let us know an address.

Larry's great great grandfather was Thomas (Phillip) Eskridge. He was born about 1802 in Sussex Co DE; died 28 February 1888 Shelby Co Missouri.

Most Delaware Eskridges have descended from George 4 Eskridge (Geo 3, Wm 2) and his wife Elisabeth Coulbourne. We anticipate that Thomas (Phillip) Eskridge was the grandson of George 4 and one of his sons: Samuel 5 George 5 William 5 Noah 5 Robert 5. We have pretty good information on George 5 and William 5, so we would anticipate it may be one of the others.

Thomas Phillip Eskridge married 1.) Sarah "Sallie" Webdell in 1827 Wakefield, Baltimore MD. She was born 1802 Maryland; died 1870 Missouri. He married 2.) Betsy Witheral on 31 August 1873 Shelby Co MO. He and Sallie had 6 known children:

- 1.) David W Eskridge — born May 1829 MD
- 2.) Mary A Eskridge — born 4 May 1832 MD; died after 1908 MO
- 3.) Dr. Henry Thomas Eskridge — born 10 April 1834 MD; died 11 August 1919 Salt River, Shelby Co MO
- 4.) John Mills Nelson Eskridge — born 1836 Salt River, Shelby Co MO; died 1898 Shelby Co MO
- 5.) Matilda Eskridge — born 1838 Shelby Co MO
- 6.) Sarah "Phaisey" Clarissa Eskridge — born 1842 MO

Thomas Phillip died intestate — but a petition for partition filed by his heirs and survivors exists to give us a few snippets of family relationships does survive. Can you give us any assistance with linking him to the Delaware Eskridges??

AS YOU ARE AWARE, WE HAVE BEEN WORKING ON AN UPDATE OF RICHARD 3 ESKRIDGE. WE HAVE HIT A SNAG WITH MARY "Polly" 4 ESKRIDGE AND HER FAMILY.

She married James Stafford. They were both born in Caswell Co NC and moved to Fayette Co TN. We are having issues knowing what information we are finding that makes sense for their children. This is especially true of Elizabeth "Betty" 5 Stafford.

There were a lot of Staffords in Tennessee and perhaps to Mary Eskridges that married James Stafford and moved to Tennessee.

We find Staffords in Fayette Co TN (near Memphis) and Jackson Co TN that is near the Kentucky border in the north middle TN — so they are no where close to each other.

Have you done work on this family or are you willing to help us sort it out? Contact Coz. Harry — jhe1947@aol.com



Eskridge Family Association

Carolyn Knight
152 Pine Creek Dr
Hampton, VA 23669-1244

E Mail: crknight@cox.net

Your Living History...

2020 EFA REUNION

**THE 2020 EFA REUNION HAS BEEN CANCELLED
INSTEAD**

WE WILL BE HOSTING A ONLINE EVENT

SATURDAY OCTOBER 3RD 2020

10:00 AM EDT UNTIL 12:00 NOON EDT

COST IS FREE

REGISTER AT: eskridgefamilyassociation@gmail.com

Submit questions you want answered as well