



# Eskridge Family News

Eskridge Family Association  
PO Box 817  
Fairhope, AL 36533

August  
2026

## LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Greetings Eskridge Cousins & Friends

Change is happening at EFA. At last year's reunion, we had some lively discussions about the future of our association and the path forward.

1.) driven by a need to replace our treasurer, Martha Bostic who resigned, Coz Joe Comer agreed to take over if we would agree to modernize the process. With the help of Coz Dale West, Joe has put a new system in place. We are going to try to go as paperless as possible. Dues will be paid on line, registration will be paid on line

2.) AND, because of the continuing escalations in all the costs involved in putting out our printed newsletters — paper, printing, postage!!, this will be our LAST printed newsletter you will receive. We still plan to prepare 2 newsletters per year but they will only be available through our website (or by special request) in March and in August

**IF YOU RECEIVED THIS NEWSLETTER BY MAIL, it means you have not yet registered in the NEW system, and need to do so as soon as possible to be able to get communications from the association and to be able to use the website to its fullest**

**IT'S REUNION TIME!!** — We are excited about this year's reunion and hope that you can join us!

We are returning to our roots — the Northern Neck of Virginia with our headquarters at beautiful Stratford Hall on October 2, 3 and 4.

You will need to make room reservations directly with Stratford AND register on our website — [eskridgefamilyassociation.com](http://eskridgefamilyassociation.com)

We look forward to a time of gathering, sharing our families' stories, adding to the rich history we have built to this time. The genealogical research done by many of you and others has helped the collection of information grow. Many of our members have contacted us with details of their extended families. It is valuable information to the whole story and also brings out more facts that may be of interest to other members.

Hope to see you at Stratford! We'll have a grand time !!

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:**

[membership@eskridgefamilyassociation.com](mailto:membership@eskridgefamilyassociation.com)

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- The 2026 Annual Meeting will be held the weekend of October 2,3 and 4 in historic Stratford VA
- If you have not paid your membership dues, please send the \$20 payment through our website  
[Eskridgefamilyassociation.com](http://Eskridgefamilyassociation.com)
- Children, grandchildren, births, marriages, divorces, deaths—we would love to have your latest information to include in the Historical Archives.

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## FROM YOUR TREASURER

Our Treasurer/Membership chair is Joe Comer from Fairhope AL.

membership@eskridgefamilyassociation.com ph 251-709-0799

We ask that you use our website [eskridgefamilyassociation.com](http://eskridgefamilyassociation.com) to pay your dues, make contributions, make reunion reservations. You can also use it to ask questions or to communicate with the association.

As many of you know Eskridge Family Association has gone digital the first of this year. And many thanks to the 43 members on our email list that renewed and the 40 new members that have registered. This, along with the previously paid members, brings our total membership to date of 99 paid members!

For those receiving this by email and have not renewed their membership, please go to the link below using your email and complete your profile information:

<https://eskridgefamilyassociation.com/member-sign-in/>

Please share this with others and direct them to the Registration page at:

<https://eskridgefamilyassociation.com/membership-registration-form>

Contact your Treasurer / Membership Chair:

<https://eskridgefamilyassociation.com/contact-us>

## IT'S REUNION TIME !!! – SAVE THE DATE



**Our reunion will be headquartered at Stratford Hall Historic Preserve in Stratford VA on October 2, 3 & 4 Our Friday night gathering will be in the Commons room of the Cheek Guest House. Make your room reservations by calling Stratford directly 804-493-1697. Rooms are \$149 per night (plus tax\_as long as rooms are available— price includes continental breakfast.**

**Saturdays annual meeting will be held at Yeocomico Church — where Col George worshipped.**

**THIS IS A MARVELOUS EXPERIENCE!! COME JOIN US AND GET TO KNOW YOUR ESKRIDGE COUSINS BETTER!**

## Welcome New or Returning Members

Carolyn Sue Tomes  
George Marshall  
Alyce "Lisa" Kolaja  
Russell Anthony Motta

## Donations — Eskridge Family Association is a 501C (7) non-profit organization

Names for our donation categories have changed a little. You can see it on the website at: <https://eskridgefamilyassociation.com/donate-now/>

**Research (Elbert Stanford Eskridge Fund)** Support our genealogy research through professional geologist, DNA and local or foreign visits where records might lead to where George Eskridge came from.

**Education** Support our efforts to educate through our website and meetings in basic genealogy, restoration and artifact act techniques, Northern Neck history and how that connects to modern times. To encourage efforts of others that are related to education

**Where Needed** For Research, Education or Operations as decided by the Board

## 2026 Donors to Date — Thank You!

| Date       | Name                         | Description | Amount   |
|------------|------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| 01/19/2026 | Joseph Dixon Eskridge, Jr.   | Research    | \$50.00  |
| 01/19/2026 | Joseph Dixon Eskridge, Jr.   | Education   | \$50.00  |
| 01/30/2026 | Joseph Marshall Eskridge, II | Research    | \$50.00  |
| 02/23/2026 | Joe (Joseph) H Comer III     | Education   | \$200.00 |
| 02/23/2026 | Ann Campbell                 | Education   | \$55.00  |
| 03/28/2026 | Daryl Brace                  | Research    | \$25.00  |
| 04/08/2026 | Ruth M. Vaughan              | Research    | \$60.00  |
| 04/24/2026 | Betty Lee Taylor Thompson    | Research    | \$80.00  |

Check out these cousins who have already registered for the reunion **Remember the Registration discount ends Sept 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**"I registered with Stratford, but my name is not on this list. WHY?"** because you have NOT registered with EFA  
**Do so today please!! ON THE WEB SITE**

|                                   |                                             |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Joe (Joseph) H Comer III          | James Harrison (Harry) Eskridge Jr + guests |
| Maribeth Marinaccio + guests      | Zoe Ann Brown + guests                      |
| Glenda (Michelle) Lustig + guests | Terry Thompson                              |
| Steve Lustig                      | Fran Markowski + guests                     |
| Carolyn Knight                    | Cari Gast                                   |
| Treadwell Davison                 | Bridget Webb + guests                       |
| Katherine Weber-Wolf              | David Webb                                  |
| Kathryn Besancon                  | Mitchell L. Eskridge                        |
| Bruce Besancon                    | Billie J. Eskridge                          |

## UNCLE GEORGE ESKRIDGE ??

In April of this year, new member Coz. Michelle Lustig (Geo 4 Geo 3 Geo 2 Geo 1) of Lewiston Idaho contacted us with this question:

“I haven’t seen anything on the website about Col George Eskridge being the brother-in-law of Augustine Washington through George’s second wife. I did some research on her family to support the information on the Mt. Vernon website. My third question is: do you have any information on the Bonum family as well?”

*This was not an avenue of research that we had pursued.*

Coz Michelle sent us a letter she had received from The George Washington Presidential Library at Mt. Vernon.

Mt Vernon says:

“The relationship between George Eskridge and Augustine Washington comes through their wives>

Augustine Washington’s wife, Jane Butler Washington (1699-1728), was the half sister of George Eskridge’s (2nd) wife, Elizabeth Vaulx Eskridge (1682-1744).

Elizabeth and Jane shared the same mother; her name was Mary Foxhall (1658-1713), but different fathers. Their mother married (*at least*) 4 times. Her first husband, Robert Vaulx (1651-1685) was the father of Elizabeth Vaulx Eskridge. Her fourth husband, Caleb Butler, was the father of Jane Butler Washington.

So, they were technically half-brothers-in-law. . . “

### What about the Bonums?

**SAMUEL BONUM sr — born 1621; died 1692 married Margaret Philpot — born 1640; died 1698**

**They had 7 or 8 children:**

- 1) Sarah Bonum — born ca 1668
- 2.) Samuel Bonum jr— born 1670 St Mary’s Co MD; died 22 Feb 1725 Westmoreland Co VA
- 3.) Margaret Bonum — born ca 1671
- 4.) Philpot Bonum — born ca 1671
- 5.) Daniel Bonum — born ca 1672; died 15 October 1732 *Was Daniel 2 Eskridge named for him?*
- 6.) Thomas Bonum — born ca 1673
- 7.) Rebecca Bonum — born ca 1675; died 27 October 1715. Married Col George Eskridge
- 8.) Elizabeth Bonum — ?

*so, what about these relationships would cause us to call Col George Eskridge “uncle” ??*

*the answer is found in the will of Samuel Bonum jr — probated 22 February 1726 Westmoreland Co VA — will book # 8, p 34*

All my lands to my son, Samuel Bonum (*III*) and the children lawfully begotten and for want of such issue, I give the same to the child or children that my wife goes with.

I give to my brother, Daniel Bonum, a ring of twenty shillings price

I give to Samuel Hayden a you cow and calf to be delivered soon after my death.

I give to my wife’s sister, Mary Ball, my young dapple gray riding horse.

All the rest of my estate I give and devise to be equally divided among my loving wife, Elizabeth Bonum, my son, Samuel Bonum, and the child or children of my wife goes with

The Guardianship and tuition of my son, Samuel Bonum, and also the child or children my wife goes with when born, under management of my uncle George Eskridge. . . .

Col George was Samuel’s brother-in-law since he married Samuel’s sister Rebecca; but he was also called uncle because his wife Elizabeth Johnson was half sister to Mary Ball.

Mary Montague married 1.) \_\_\_\_\_ Johnson. They had daughter Elizabeth Johnson who married Samuel Bonum Jr

then, she married 2.) Col Joseph Ball. They had daughter Mary Ball (who married Augustine Washington)

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

**As part of our celebrating of the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution, we are looking at Eskridges and close kin that made it happen. This time we are looking at George Eskridge of Kentucky.**

**GENERATION 4 — SGT GEORGE 4 ESKRIDGE (Geo 3 Geo 2 Geo 1 assumed) was born 24 July 1763 in Westmoreland Co VA; died 18 August 1827 Falls of the Rough, Grayson Co KY. Buried in the family cemetery off KY Hwy 79.**

George Eskridge enlisted at Westmoreland VA in the Virginia Troops of the Continental Establishment at age 15. He served under Captain Burgess Ball and Colonel Parker as orderly, Sergeant and Commissary. He served 3 years, after which time, he reentered the service and was in the Battles of Cowpens and Guilford Courthouse and at the defeat of Cornwallis at Yorktown VA. Family tradition says he attained the rank of Lieutenant, but there is no supporting documentation other than the information contained on Widow's Pension # W 8693

He married 1.) ca 1781 Frances Kenner — she was born 1760 in VA. He married 2.) on 17 February 1792 in Prince William Co VA, Elizabeth Robinson. She was the daughter of Nathaniel Robinson and was born 30 December 1770 VA; died 21 July 1844 Breckenridge Co KY

About 1811, Sgt George and Elizabeth moved from Virginia to Kentucky. They settled on approximately 1000 acres of land on the Rough River in Grayson Co, KY. He built a cabin near the river and he built a road to the river when he Operated a ferry. He sold a strip of land to his brother-in-law \_\_\_\_\_ Robinson. When their children married, the strip of land in the middle was given to them. The family cemetery is on a hill at the south end of the property.

In the 1930's, part of the Eskridge land became a part of the Flood Control Ace. A dam was built in the 1950's near the site of the Eskridge cabin. Land to the east of Hwy 79 became Rough River State Park and Lake. Only a part of the Eskridge Ferry Road that circles the hill where the cemetery lies is still in use. Where the cabin stood and the remains of the road are overgrown. A historical marker marking his home place and honoring him was dedicated on 9 April 1977 on Hwy 79,

On 9 April 1853, Elijah R 5 Eskridge of Breckinridge Co KY, applied for the pension which would have been due his mother as the widow of George Eskridge, and the same was allowed Warrant W.8693

A copy of his will survives and is transcribed as a part of our archives.

All of his children, but one were born in VA or in route to KY. Only Elijah Robinson Eskridge seems to have been born in KY.

### **Children of Sgt George 4 Eskridge and Frances Kenner:**

1. William Kenner 5 Eskridge — was born 10 December 1782 VA; living in Loudon Co VA ? In 1830. Spoke of Moving to Kentucky — was given land near Chillicothe OH in his father's will —military warrant #3491 — Died 14 June 1852 Harrison Co, KY of cholera — more
2. Mary (Polly) (Molly) 5 Eskridge — was born 15 December 1783 VA; married 15 June 1801 Fauquier Co VA, Enoch Foley (b 1770) — went to Chicago IL — more

### **Children of Sgt George 4 Eskridge and Elizabeth Robinson:**

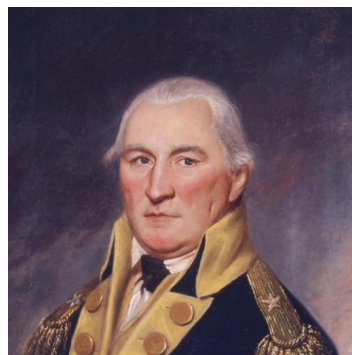
3. Nancy Nash 5 Eskridge — was born 15 December 1792 VA — married 1.) Travis Herndon — d 11 September 1853 KY; 2.) Elias Willie Porter — more

## Children of Sgt George 4 Eskridge and Elizabeth Robinson (cont).

4. Mary Frances (Fanny) 5 Eskridge — was born 16 October 1794 VA; died 4 August 1858. Married 1.) William R Fentress 2 December 1813 Falls of Rough KY — more
5. Alfred 5 Eskridge — born 30 November 1795 VA; died ca 1847; married his cousin Emma Rominson. Drowned In Rough Creek? — more
6. Nathaniel Robinson (Robert) 5 Eskridge — was born 21 March 1798 Prince William Co VA; died after 1853 — More
7. Elizabeth “Eliza” Ann 5 Eskridge — was born 11 April 1800 VA; died 23 January 1878 Wayne Co IL — more
8. Joseph Wilson 5 Eskridge — was born 2 February 1802 Prince William Co VA; died 3 December 1846; married Coz Frances Robinson — more
9. John Weston 5 Eskridge — was born 4 February 1804 VA; died 12 April 1857 Grayson Co KY of rheumatism — more
10. Henry 5 Eskridge — was born 2 December 1807 Prince William Co VA — married Frances Robinson Eskridge (sister-in-law) — more
11. George (Henry?) 5 Eskridge — was born 14 May 1810 VA; died 22 February 1867 KY — more
12. Judge Elija Robinson 5 Eskridge — was born 19 September 1813 KY; died 26 July 1886 KY — more



FAG # 21279826



KENTUCKY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## ESKRIDGE DNA PROJECT

The parentage of Sgt George Eskridge is unproven. Over the years, most family members have believed Sgt George 4 Eskridge & Lt William 4 Eskridge to be brothers and children of George 3 Eskridge and Hannah Demourville. Sgt George Was born in 1763; Lt William was born ca 1757/8. IF these 2 are indeed brothers, then their father was probably born ca 1735-1737.

If we follow “conventional wisdom” and assume George 3 Eskridge and Hannah Demourville were indeed the parents of Sgt George & Lt William. Then, who were the parents of George 3 ????

Family members point to both William 2 and George 2 Eskridge as being that parent. Both men had sons named George, so it Could be? Let’s examine William 2 first:

He was the eldest son of Col George Eskridge and Rebecca Bonum. He married Abigail Coulbourne, daughter of William Coulbourne Jr and Ann Revel of Somerset Co MD. Their children were:

1. George 3 Eskridge — born 1736 Westmoreland Co VA; died 1749 — married Priscilla Coulbourne of Dorchester Co MD — died way before birth of either man, so, therefore, could not have been the father of these 2

William 2 Eskridge children cont.

2. Robert 3 Eskridge — will filed Richmond VA 1765
3. Thomas 3 Eskridge — died 1748; no wife
4. Samuel 3 Eskridge — dead by 1750

It just does not follow at all that a George 3 Eskridge who married Hannah Demourville is part of this branch.

OK, then how about George 2 Eskridge??

*George 2 Eskridge was born ca 1683; ca 1722, he married Hannah Rust, daughter of Samuel Rust and Martha Butler. George 2 died ca 1731/2 — about 2 years before his father's (Col George's) will. Col George's will clearly delineates the 4 sons of George 2 alive at the time of the will (1735). Each of these 4 inherited pieces of the "Flatlick" property in Prince William Co. The 4 were:*

1. Samuel 3 Eskridge — born 15 July 1723 — he did have 2 sons named George 1) born 3 Nov 1750; died 1754; the second born February 1757, married Nellie Harvey
2. George 3 Eskridge — born 6 August 1724 — said by E. M Rust to have died with issue by \_\_\_\_ EFA's grand dames — West & Coiner — seem to have taken Rust at his word. But There are others that think he may be the one who married Hannah — daughter of Samuel and Rose \_\_\_\_ (widow of Philip Bonum). It's possible he could be the one. The Flat Lick Property May be the key — as a George Eskridge and his wife Hannah sold their Flat Lick Property
3. William 3 Eskridge — born after 1725; married 1751 his cousin Elizabeth Rust; died 1782
4. Thomas 3 Eskridge — minor in 1746

In 2006, EFA launched a DNA project to try prove lineage for the descendants of Sgt George and Lt William Eskridge. Soon after we did the same thing with the Delaware Eskridges.

Ours is a small project, using only male DNA — and then males who retain the Eskridge name. This is the best way to prove lineage

We hope to one day use these methods to find the origin of the Colonel himself.

DNA from descendants of Sgt George Eskridge, Lt William Eskridge and a couple of Delaware Eskridges Were compared against samples from a descendant of Samuel 2 Eskridge. The results prove that all are Genetically linked. The only place that could happen would be with Col George.

While it does not connect in the traditional sense, organizations like DAR are accepting DNA as proof. AND We are convinced that the results along with our own Flat Lick Property research are sufficient to accept Them.

## 2026 EFA REUNION

MAKE YOUR PLANS TO ATTEND THE 2026 REUNION

OCTOBER 2, 3 & 4

STRATFORD HALL HISTORIC PRESERVE

483 GREAT HOUSE ROAD

STRATFORD VA 22558

804-493-1697 or [reservations@stratfordhall.org](mailto:reservations@stratfordhall.org)

SPECIAL RATE OF \$149 per night + tax — limited availability

*Your Living History...*

***Eskridge Family***

***Association***

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