



# *McVicker, Moreland, Pinnell, Scruggs; and allied families*



## *A Family History Newsletter*

Genealogy is Hereditary

My ancestors did WHAT?

Genealogy is Hereditary

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## WELCOME

### *Hello Everyone;*

Welcome to the **Fall 2009** issue of the *McVicker, Moreland, Pinnell, Scruggs* (MMPS) family newsletter. We've included you on my mailing list because you are someone who shares a common interest of searching for information on the surnames associated with our maternal family line. We hope that some of the topics addressed within this newsletter will assist you with your genealogical endeavors.

This issue's **feature article** is about our 5<sup>th</sup> great grandfather James Johnson a pioneer and woodsman who lived mostly on the far edges of the American Frontier during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

**News of Interest to the Family Historian** contains links to worthwhile FREE websites for Internet Researchers. Also here is news about the new and improved features in the 2010 version of the Family Tree Maker software.

A quarterly accounting of the **MMPS Database** at the *RootsWeb World Connect Project* indicates the addition of five new direct ancestral family lines, as well as 33 new individual records.

Take time to look at the new and revised web pages and image galleries recently uploaded to the **Maternal and Paternal Ancestors Website** at *RootsWeb's Freepages*. Included here are pages containing worthwhile information about individual surnames, and ancestral locations, as well as special topics such as military units, our genealogy reference book library, and historic American roads.

You are reminded to check out the **Research Connections** to see if anyone else is researching your family or a similar surname.

The BEARD surname is featured in the **Surname Search** section. "Surname Search" displays matches of a surname in our database to the huge resources found at RootsWeb.com.

As always we will attempt to keep the newsletter brief but informative and hope you will enjoy reading it. If you do not want to remain on our mailing list please let us know and we will stop sending to you. To read our previous newsletters, see the link in the **Contact Information** section of this issue.

*Fred & Tom*

## A QUOTE TO NOTE

*We all grow up with the weight of history on us. Our ancestors dwell in the attics of our brains as they do in the spiraling chains of knowledge hidden in every cell of our bodies. ~Shirley Abbott*

# FEATURE ARTICLE

## The Life and Times of James Johnson

Our 5<sup>th</sup> great grandfather James Johnson was a pioneer and woodsman who lived mostly on the far edges of the American Frontier. During those

### DIRECT LINEAGE CHART

- 1-James Johnson 1740-1849
- 2-Griffin Johnson 1778-1861
- 3-Disbury Johnson 1799-1883
- 4-Mary Vinnell Johnson 1827-1907
- 5-Mary Etta Pinnell 1863-1929
- 6-Jerre' Floyd Moreland 1899-1971

times and under those conditions life was difficult, dangerous and probably short. James fought with the Native-Americans to protect his home, suffered through sickness, and the loss of family members because he chose to spend his life at the outskirts of society. Despite these circumstances James lived a long and full life leaving many descendents. Like his contemporary the legendary Daniel Boone, James Johnson seemed to have had the fortitude and just plain luck to have beaten the odds against many men of those times.

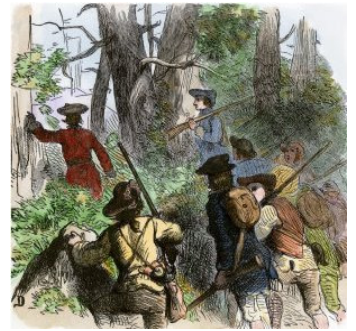
James Johnson was born during 1740 in either Virginia or Maryland. If he was born prior to his family moving to western Maryland the most probable place would be Essex County, Virginia. If born after the aforementioned move then he was born in the western part of Frederick County, Maryland that would eventually become Allegany County.

It is believed that during the French and Indian Wars he served as a military engineer under General Braddock. If this is fact James would have been only 15 years old and may have been employed to construct roads through the wilderness during Braddock's ill-fated 1755 expedition. The likelihood of his service is heightened due to the fact that at this time he was living in Maryland at a location through which the Braddock built his Road from Cumberland, Maryland to Fort Pitt, now Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania.

James is known to have been married four times during his life. Apparently his first marriage was around 1758 to a woman named Ann McMillian. This event probably occurred in Maryland or Virginia. It is said that four children were produced of this union. The names of three off-spring all sons are known. Ann died around 1764. James Johnson's second marriage was to Catherine Demos, a native of Berkeley County, West Virginia, that occurred sometime between 1765

and 1769. James and Catherine had eleven children born between c.1769 and 1784. It is most probable that soon after his marriage to Catherine James migrated up into southwestern Pennsylvania. Here he settled on the edge of what was then the frontier of the English colonies in what would become Westmoreland County in 1773.

During the American Revolution James served the cause as a Ranger with a unit from Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. It is probable that his service was most likely involved in defending the western frontier against Indian attacks. During the war British authorities in Detroit encouraged the Native-Americans in Ohio to cross into Pennsylvania to strike at isolated cabins.



The best method of defending the scattered settlements was to organize companies of Rangers, to patrol the course of the Allegheny and Ohio, and to pursue the bands of marauders. James Johnson's patriotic service during the war has been verified in Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) records.

After the war it is believed that James and his family were living about 15 to 20 miles east of the Ohio River in what was then Ohio County, Virginia and would become Washington County, Pennsylvania in 1781. \* James was no stranger to Indian encounters as illustrated by the following incidents. Sometime prior migrating to Ohio and, while "in camp" on McIntyre's Creek in company with two neighbors, McIntyre and Layport, the three were attacked by Indians. McIntyre and Layport were both killed and James was taken captive. The Indians took him with them to Sandusky as a prisoner, but James was released and he afterwards returned home.

By 1788 James had moved his family across the Ohio River, and bought some improvements on what was called Beach Bottom Flats, located two and a half miles from the river, and three or four miles above the mouth of Short Creek, with the expectation of holding by improvement right under the Virginia claim. Soon

after he reached there, the Indians became troublesome; they stole horses, and killed a number



of persons in the neighborhood. In October 1788 his 11 year old son Henry and his 13 year old son John were captured by two Indians. During the night the boys gained their freedom by shooting one Indian and clubbing the other with a

tomahawk. The entire adventure was written out a detailed statement by Henry Johnson in 1851.

James and Catherine along with their children and

grand-children moved further west to Harrison County, Ohio. According to the history of son Andrew William Johnson this event occurred in 1804. Catherine passed away in 1815. Even though he was 75 years old James married for a third time on August 22, 1816 to Jemima Griffin. This event took place in Harrison County. James's fourth marriage to Eleanor Mowder in 1820 is a true testament to his vitality as he was about 80 years old at the time! James was a farmer and belonged to the Methodist Church. At least one newspaper account has James living to be 111 years old and includes the claim that when he was 110, he was still plowing his own corn! If the records are correct James lived to be at least 109 years old. He is probably buried near the town of Freeport, Ohio.

## NEWS OF INTEREST TO THE FAMILY HISTORIAN

### Worthwhile Websites and Research Tips

Overwhelmed by the number of family history-related Web sites popping up? The folks at FamilyTreeMagazine <<http://tinyurl.com/re5ryu>> have taken the time to sort through them to bring us the best. As a result they have recently identified the following worthwhile websites:

#### **Best FREE Web-sites for Internet Researchers**

**Access Genealogy** <<http://www.accessgenealogy.com/>>

Besides oodles of links, this portal also serves up census, vital, immigration, cemetery and military records; plus biographies and such Native American essentials as the 1880 Cherokee census and the Final Rolls of the Five Civilized Tribes (aka the Dawes Rolls).

**Ancestry Insider** <<http://ancestryinsider.blogspot.com/>>

- Keep up with the latest in online research—especially the doings at Ancestry.com and FamilySearch—with this unofficial, unauthorized, must-read site.

**Bible Records Online** <<http://www.biblerecords.com/>>

Who says you have to venture to some musty attic or repository to research in family Bibles? Not Tracy St. Claire, who rescues old Bibles and digitizes them for all to see—1,158 to date, covering 3,469 surnames.

**DistantCousin.com** <<http://www.distantcousin.com/>>

A grab bag of newspaper obituaries, city directories, census records, ship lists, school yearbooks, military records and other resources, DistantCousin dishes out more than 6 million records from 1,500-plus sources.

**Diigo** <<http://www.diigo.com/>>

Though not targeted specifically at genealogists, Diigo—short for "Digest of Internet Information, Groups and Other Stuff"—can be a powerful companion to your Web research. Use it to highlight and annotate parts of Web pages, not only for your own future reference, but to share with fellow researchers. Diigo works right inside your favorite browser.

**Find a Grave** <<http://www.findagrave.com/>>

Who needs to go tromping around graveyards when you have this easy-to-search site, which makes it easy to, well, dig into graves? You can make quick progress finding not only ancestors' final resting places but also their birth and death dates, transcribed from tombstones, among the 22 million records here.

**Shared Tree** <<http://www.sharedtree.com/>>

As long as you're on the Web, why not keep your family tree there, too? This free online application is a shade more sophisticated than the alternatives. There's nothing to download, it's GEDCOM compatible, files have no size limit, and you can collaborate with fellow researchers in real time.

**FamilySearch Labs** <<http://www.familysearchlabs.org/>>

If the FamilySearch Web site is old hat to you already, check out this "lab" where you can preview the next generation of the site as well cool tools that the brains behind it are developing. An accompanying blog lets you give feedback on these works in progress.



## Family Tree Maker 2010 Released

Depicting your family's story in a meaningful way appears to be the focus of updates to Family Tree Maker 2010, recently released from Ancestry.com.

New and improved features of this well-liked genealogy software is billed as helping you create a family tree faster, easier, and better than ever before. More specifically, the updates include:

- Enhanced integration with Ancestry.com - Import your Ancestry.com family tree, along with attached photos.
- Improved organization - Enjoy new ways to organize photos and other media.
- Slideshows - Create slideshows from photos in your tree.
- Family books - Publish beautiful keepsakes and books to share with friends and family.
- Standard source templates - Cite the right information every time.

- A new person view - View relationships within the context of your entire family tree.
- Scanner support - Add photos directly from your scanner.
- Family migration paths - View timelines and interactive maps highlighting events and places in your ancestors' lives.
- Better Performance - Experience faster load times and navigation.

See an overview and screenshots of Family Tree Maker 2010 at <http://tinyurl.com/pbooha>. You can purchase it online for \$39.95 (includes a two-week Ancestry.com trial subscription); shipping is free for a limited time. Apparently Ancestry is NOT offering a lower-price version for 2009 users looking to upgrade which was, a practice that they committed to in the past.

## Speed Up Ancestry.com Searches with These Hot Keys

Feel like you're browsing your Ancestry.com search results in slow motion? Speed things up by using these keyboard shortcuts:

- r: refine the current search

- n: start a new search
- p: show first record preview
- <: show previous record preview

*EDITOR'S NOTE: If you have any ideas, and or information you might have regarding ways to enhance our researching experiences. Send them to me at [silrem@comcast.net](mailto:silrem@comcast.net).*



# Database Updates



## Our family trees now at both Ancestry.com and Roots Web Ball, Basset, Buchan, Giffard, Quincy Surnames Added

You will now find our family trees at the *Ancestry.com* website. One is named Ancestors of Jerre' F. Moreland and contains the records of **1,403** persons. The other tree is Ancestors of Ella Pearl Scruggs with **1,131** records.

An updated version of our **MMPS Database** was recently uploaded to the World Connect site at *RootsWeb.com*. **33** new records have been added over the past three months. We now have information on **3,478** persons. Since we update the database quarterly to coincide with the publishing of this newsletter our readers are all reminded to take a look at what is new with our family history research. If you do check the website out you may find some

new information that will enhance your own research or you may find some errors in ours that we need to know of.

To access the **Database at Roots.web** click on the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/4z3ky6>. You may also access our family tree by going to: <http://worldconnect.rootsweb.com/>.

The two **Databases at Ancestry.com** are located at the Home Page <http://www.ancestry.com/> in the "Search" pull-down button under "Public Member Trees".

Please know that we would always welcome any new information that you may have on our common ancestors.

# WHAT'S NEW AT THE WEBSITE??

## *Our Maternal and Paternal Ancestors: 350 Years of History in America*

### See New Pages for the Mormon, Oregon, and DeAnza Migration Routes A Guide to Genealogy Acronyms & "Map a Surname" Added to our Resource Pages

Because we usually update this site several times between the publishing of this Newsletter you are reminded and encouraged to periodically review what is new with regard to the family information and genealogical resources contained at our internet web site entitled, **Our Maternal & Paternal Ancestors 350 Years of History in America: An Archive of Genealogical Information**, at the following link:  
<http://tinyurl.com/3lbrly>.

Over the past three months **twelve** new and revised surname pages, and **eight** source documents have been uploaded to the **MMPS Subsite**. To promote easier access to our "Source Document Archives" all Microsoft Word pages have been converted to the more universal PDF format.

18 new web pages and corresponding images have been created and added at to our **Ancestral Locations** sub-site. If you are researching any Scottish or English ancestors you may find our new pages and corresponding galleries to be informative. We've also completed pages for all of our ancestral locations in Missouri. In addition, a better quality Plat Map for Maries County, Missouri has been added to the Image Gallery.

The scope and volume of the various subsites created for our **Special Topics** continued to increase since the last issue of this newsletter. If you're currently researching a particular U.S. State / County

or U.K. Shire take a look at our **Genealogy Reference Library** for a history or records for that locality. Most of these books are fully searchable and can be downloaded to your computer. In addition text may be cut & pasted directly to your family tree software or other document. Readers who have an interest in **Historic American Roads And Migration Routes** should take a look at the new updates and revisions at the pages which address the Oregon and De Anza trails. Also the Mormon Trail and other routes to the Western Mountain States. Our **War Veterans** sub-site has basic accounts about each of the eleven most important American war periods in which our ancestors may have participated. Links within the text will provide the researcher with additional insight regarding the key aspects of each conflict.

Revisions have also been accomplished upon some **Other** web pages. Our Genealogy Research Tool-Kit page which now includes "A Guide to Genealogy Acronyms". "Map a Surname has been added to our Surname Locator & Surname Resources.

As with the database you may find some new information that will enhance your own research or you may want to advise of some new information that we can include at the site. Either way we would appreciate an email from you just to let me know that you've found your way to our online website.

### NEW AND REVISED "MMPS" SURNAME PAGES

To access these pages cut and paste this address <http://tinyurl.com/56odpr> to your web browser

**MMPS SURNAME INDEX:** Booker; Bracken; Carter; Clemens; Comyn; Dickson; Douglass; Eades; Gardner; Green; Johnson (1); Johnson (2); Moreland; Neely; Rhodes; Sheperd

**MMPS SOURCE DOCUMENTS:** Abraham Eades (1751 Home-site); Albea E. Scruggs (Civil War Service Record); Calvin S. Scruggs (Civil War Service Record); Edward Green (Historical Documents); James E. Scruggs (Civil War Service Record); John Dickson (1767 property); John P. Moreland land (Maries Co., MO); Samuel M. Scruggs (Civil War Service Record)

**PHOTOGRAPHS AND IMAGES ARCHIVES:**

**SPECIALTY PAGES:** MMPS War Veterans

## **NEW & REVISED "ANCESTRAL LOCATION" PAGES**

To access these pages follow this link <<http://tinyurl.com/5rcafv>>.

**UNITED STATES:** Adams Co., PA; Benton Co., AR; Colorado USA; Gasconade Co., MO; Harrison Co., OH; Lewis Co., MO; Louisiana USA; Maine USA; Massachusetts USA; Missouri USA; North Carolina USA; Osage Co., MO

**FRANCE:**

**GERMANY:** Baden-Wurttemberg; Karlsruhe District; Rhein-Neckar District;

**SWITZERLAND:**

**UNITED KINGDOM:** Aberdeenshire, Scotland, Morayshire, Scotland; Wiltshire, England

## **NEW & REVISED "ANCESTRAL LOCATIONS" PHOTO & IMAGE ARCHIVES**

To access these pages follow this link <<http://tinyurl.com/nczbsj>>.

**UNITED STATES:** Gasconade Co., MO; Lewis Co., MO; Maries Co., MO Osage Co., MO

**FRANCE:**

**GERMANY:**

**SWITZERLAND:**

**UNITED KINGDOM:**

## **"SPECIAL TOPICS" NEW & REVISED PAGES**

To access these pages follow this link <<http://tinyurl.com/3lbrly>>.

**GENEALOGY RESEARCH LIBRARY:** General Reference & Location; United Kingdom Reference; United Kingdom Locations; USA Reference; USA Locations

**HISTORIC AMERICAN ROADS AND MIGRATION ROUTES:** DeAnza Trail; Mormon Trail; Oregon Trail; Trail to the Western U.S. States

**RESEARCHING OUR WAR VETERANS:** Researching Our War Veterans; 2<sup>nd</sup> Virginia Cavalry (Civil War); 12<sup>th</sup> New Jersey Infantry Regt. (Civil War); 6<sup>th</sup> Special Naval construction Battalion (WW2)

**OTHER:** Our Genealogy Research Tool-Kit; Our Surname Locator & Surname Resources;

## **"SPECIAL TOPICS" NEW & REVISED PHOTO & IMAGE ARCHIVES**

To access these pages follow this link <<http://tinyurl.com/3lbrly>>.

**HISTORIC AMERICAN ROADS AND MIGRATION ROUTES:** Cherokee Trail; Goodale's Cutoff; Goodnight-Loving Trail; Leavenworth & Pike's Peak Express; Mormon Trail; Old Arizona Road; Trapper's Trail; Trails to the Western Mountain States; Whitman Trail

**MILITARY Image Galleries:** 6<sup>th</sup> Special Naval construction Battalion (WW2); 12<sup>th</sup> New Jersey Infantry Regt. (Civil War); 110<sup>th</sup> Inf. Regt. (WWI)

**OTHER:**

## **RESEARCH CONNECTIONS**

Since the first issue of this newsletter was created back in the Fall of 2002 its distribution list has grown significantly. Along the way we have interacted with many genealogists that have expressed an interest in one or more of the family lines contained within our MMPS database located at Roots Web. Because networking is a key to the success of any family historian we feel that it is important for this newsletter to help in making that connection. Below is a listing of several subscribers and the common family lines they are researching.

Who	Researching Surname(s)	Who	Researching Surname(s)
Debbie Johnson <a href="mailto:angelladv862@hotmail.com">angelladv862@hotmail.com</a>	Warnock, Dowdle	Savannah Jordon <a href="mailto:lakegirltyler@yahoo.com">lakegirltyler@yahoo.com</a>	Moreland, Jones

<b>Vanelle Mangers</b> <a href="mailto:grandmagers@gvtc.com">grandmagers@gvtc.com</a>	<b>Bishop, Hardy</b>	<b>Sherry Veith</b> <a href="mailto:NONAMELDY52@aol.com">NONAMELDY52@aol.com</a>	<b>Bennett</b>
<b>Susan Norton</b> <a href="mailto:nortoncrew@cablone.net">nortoncrew@cablone.net</a>	<b>McVicker</b>	<b>Randy H. Schmidt</b> <a href="mailto:peshewa@comcast.net">peshewa@comcast.net</a>	<b>Thomas Holeman (1675-1723) m. Mary Moreland</b>
<b>Mary Flegel</b> <a href="mailto:maryflegel@cablone.net">maryflegel@cablone.net</a>	<b>Johnson</b>	<b>Jody Logan</b> <a href="mailto:dlogan1@wi.rr.com">dlogan1@wi.rr.com</a>	<b>Richard William Ross b. 1823, m. Susan Lease.</b>
<b>Luann Seamons</b> <a href="mailto:lubose@plmw.com">lubose@plmw.com</a>	<b>Green, Bracken</b>	<b>Jasmine Snipes</b> <a href="mailto:JMSnipes@magellanhealth.com">JMSnipes@magellanhealth.com</a>	<b>Bennett and Snipes</b>
<b>Gay Edens Carrigan</b> <a href="mailto:gaedcar@xipline.com">gaedcar@xipline.com</a>	<b>Peter Eades, born ca 1773-79, Albemarle Co., VA, m. Sarah Henderson Sandridge, 1803,</b>	<b>Kasey Hart</b> <a href="mailto:angelkcp23@angelic.com">angelkcp23@angelic.com</a>	<b>Peachee family of Burlington, Co., &amp; Salem Co., NJ</b>

If you would like to be included on this list or if should any of the above named persons would like their information deleted or revised contact Fred at [silrem@comcast.net](mailto:silrem@comcast.net).

## SURNAME SEARCH

### BEARD

Featured Databases		Matches	Other Searches		Matches
WorldConnect		128,016	Alumni Lists		92
Social Security Death Index		17,386	Book Indexes		234
Rootsweb Surname List		301	Cemetery Listings		415
Vital Records		Matches	Census Records		199
California Death Index		1,475	Church Records		5
Texas Death Index		1,332	BLM/GRO Land Records		454
Kentucky Death Index		1,154	Obituaries		98
Kentucky Marriage Index Husband		378	Plat Records		7
Kentucky Marriage Index Wife		363	POW/MIA Records		5
Maine Death Index		13	British, UK and Ireland Data		76
South Dakota Birth Index		6	Atlas/Gazetteer Listings		2
World War One Draft Index		313	Military Records		47
Early Death Records		185	Newspaper Indexes		128
Pre-1920 Marriages		216	Passenger Lists		1
Pre-1920 Births		78	Tax and Voter Lists		9
Other Searches		Matches	Utah State Archives		6
Web Site Search		31,383	Professional, Society, Religious Groups		15
Australia and New Zealand Records		131	Obituary Daily Times		3

“Surname Search” features matches of a direct ancestral surname from our database to records that can be found at RootsWeb.com(<http://searches.rootsweb.ancestry.com/>). At the Rootsweb Home Page type this or any other surname and follow the links to information that may be useful and hopefully rekindle your own research into this family as well as other topics at RootsWeb. To see what information we have uncovered on this family surname follow the links to our Website at <http://tinyurl.com/3lbrly>. and Database at <http://tinyurl.com/4z3ky6>.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

*“McVicker, Moreland, Pinnell, Scruggs and allied families”* is a family-history newsletter published quarterly by Frederick G. Siler, 889 Dante Court, Mantua, New Jersey 08051. It is available both in print and online. Print copies may be obtained through written correspondence that includes an SASE.

The online version is sent as an attachment via email. Issues are also posted in our Newsletters Archive at <http://tinyurl.com/4eld8o>. Submissions of articles, photos, documents, etc., are strongly encouraged. Please email to [silrem@comcast.net](mailto:silrem@comcast.net).

Someday you'll be an Ancestor too!