

# Lawrence, Etc.

The official newsletter of "The First Peelle Family In America"



Volume 13 Issue 2

ISSN # 1534-4460

April - June 2013

*Those who don't remember their ancestors don't deserve to be remembered!*

## From The Editor

Soon, Trish and I will be escaping the Texas summer heat by going to Europe. It was 87 degrees at 10 o'clock last night. We had a record 108 on last Friday. That really burns up the garden; however, we still have a few vegetables producing.

In my last newsletter I reported that my brother George Peele (80), of North Carolina, had been diagnosed with Leukemia and my daughter Susie's husband, George Blucher, was diagnosed with Squamous Cell cancer. Both have now received treatment, (chemotherapy and radiation) and we pray that with God's help both will recover. Trish, Susie, George and I are going to North Carolina to see brother George in early July before we depart for Europe. Keep the prayers coming for all afflicted family members, everywhere. Thank you.

RB Peelle reported the death of his father, **Robert Beatty Peelle**, who died peacefully in his sleep March 16, 2013, just as I was asking everyone to send him cards through our Senior Citizens Birthday Page. Please say a welcome to Linda Peelle Haddeman whom I recently added to our birthday page. We have three birthdays next quarter. Don't forget to send those birthday cards!

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As of today, 208 Peelle Heritage books have been mailed to their recipients and another 14 have been promised. Others will be going to the Library of Genealogist in London, to Charles Peel Yates in Gibraltar, and another to the 3rd Earl Peel, Member of Parliament, of England.

A couple of interesting items have come my way. There is a new interesting theory on Lawrence Peelle and which family he may belong to in old England; this will be in the next newsletter.

But the big news is that we have a new shining star in genealogy, **Patti Cecille Peel** who married to Scott Whittington. She has made me a very happy person in that she comes from a family line of my missing James Peelle, brother to my Great-great-grandfather Robert Peelle. With her diligence in research, helping each other and DNAP, together, we have proven that her ancestor is in fact my James Peelle. I now have more cousins -- more inside!!!



I had more obituaries but was limited on space, see next issue.

# Senior Citizen Birthdays

Please send the name, picture, date of birth, address, of any senior, 80-85 or over, and how they are related to our Peel, Peel, Peele, or Peelle family. I will gladly add their picture in the appropriate quarterly publication. They will be sent FREE copies of *Lawrence, Etc.*

***Don't forget to send them cards!!!***

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**Harriett Pearl Peelle Terrell**  
89 on July 12, born 1924

*(Daughter of Walter Isaiah Peelle and Mahalia Caroline "May" Thompson; Wife of James Terrell.)*

**Harriett Peelle Terrell**  
290 Prairie Ave # 407  
Wilmington, OH 45177

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**Marvin Buford Peele, Jr.**  
89 on August 9, born 1924

*(Son of Marvin B. Peele, Sr. and Annie Elizabeth Bullard, (Horace's brother) and Husband of Mattie Isabelle Smith.)*

**Marvin B. Peele, Jr.**  
183 Rothwood Road  
Monroe, VA 24574-3211

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**Linda Peelle Haddeman**  
81 on August 15, born 1932

*(Wife of Ted Haddeman, daughter of Elbert Moore Peelle, the son of Morris Peelle who moved to California as a young man, son of Rev. Isaiah Peelle of Wilmington, Ohio.)*

**Linda Peelle Haddeman**  
1826 Greenway Lane  
Paradise, CA 95969

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## Notes from Cousins

I had some interesting email this last quarter. One was in the form of a complaint that I had **not** listed a particular Georgia branch of the family tree in the first book the Peele Chronicles. Since it was also her family, cousin **Diane Peel Walls** wrote a response -- why and how the two books, Peele Chronicles and Peele Heritage, were designed and limited. From Diane...

[Cousin,]

There wasn't much information in the first book [Peele Chronicles] about our side of the Peel family, granted, but we were related to every person in the book. The first book was mainly about the history of the Peel(le) family and mainly Lawrence Peelle and how he arrived in the new world and his side of the family and how they arrived in the new world. Part of our family is in the book, just not our Georgia family. I know how you felt, not seeing our GA family, and I expressed to Horace about why our family wasn't in the book. But he quickly explained to me that the new book [Peele Heritage] was the GENEALOGY book, which is what it is. And our family is in the new book, up to Benny Peel and his brothers and sisters (this was My Grandfather's daddy). So much of our

family is covered. And what is amazing is that, all in all, we are related to everyone in the book!

There was no way Horace could bring the last book up to our generation, or even our parent's generation. The book would have been huge! I am in the process of writing a book starting at our grandparent's generation, which will cover your grandparent's generation, starting where Horace left off and going on from there. I will be asking for information from different people, asking for names, dates and information from cousins in the future for this book so it can be completed before too long. I hope you will help me in this task.

Love you, Diane

Again, I applaud Diane's initiative and encourage each of you to write your own book designed discretely around your immediate family tree starting with the tenth generation as a follow-up to the Peele Chronicles and Heritage books. It will be your legacy to your branch of the tree. I hope you also understand that it is impossible to name every family.



It is amazing what an obituary can reveal. The obit on Veria Key Peele in the last newsletter brought this comment from **Nancy Peele Johnson**.

Horace,

...By the way the last newsletter gave me a wealth of information from the obituary for Veria Key Peele. I had no idea if John W. Peele had a family when he died in 1863 as his Brother Daniel was the only one to come back from the Civil War. Thank you for doing a great Newsletter for us.

Nancy Peele Johnson

The John W. Peele mentioned by Nancy had two children as shown in the following extract. From those two, I have ten pages of descendents which I will gladly send to anyone who desires the same.

### ***Descendants of John W. Peele***

**1. John W.<sup>8</sup> Peele** (Timothy<sup>7</sup>, Jesse<sup>6</sup> Peel, Jesse<sup>5</sup> Peelle, William<sup>4</sup>, Robert<sup>3</sup>, Robert<sup>2</sup>, Lawrence<sup>1</sup>) was born 1832 in Hollen Springs, Surry Co., NC<sup>1</sup>, and died 03 Feb 1863 in Cave Hill National Cemetery, Louisville, Jefferson Co., KY. He married **Nancy Jane Bowman** 21 Jun 1855 in Surry Co., NC<sup>2</sup>. She was born 14 Mar 1835 in VA, and died 29 Oct 1899 in New Hope Methodist Church Cemetery, Pilot, Surry Co., NC<sup>2</sup>.

Notes for John W. Peele:

!Enlisted Dec 17, 1862, Clay Co., KY. Physical description: dark complexion, grey eyes, black hair, 5'8". Occupation: Farmer

Children of John Peele and Nancy Bowman are:

- 2 i. Columbus Washington<sup>9</sup> Peele, born 05 May 1857 in Surry Co., NC<sup>2</sup>; died 30 Jan 1918 in New Hope Methodist Church Cemetery, Surry Co., NC. He married Nancy Ann "Nannie" Jones 05 Mar 1882 in Surry Co., NC; born 06 Dec 1857 in Surry Co., NC<sup>2</sup>; died 03 Jun 1924 in New Hope Methodist Church Cemetery, Surry Co., NC<sup>2</sup>. He was a mechanic.

- 3 ii. Sarah Frances Peele, born 12 Aug 1861<sup>2</sup>; died 07 Jul 1923 in New Hope Methodist Church Cemetery, Pilot, Surry Co., NC<sup>2</sup>. She married David D. Lawson 16 Dec 1877<sup>2</sup>; born Jun 1854<sup>2</sup>.

*Endnotes*

1. Ann Schwab.
2. Amy Denise Peele.



I received this email from **Linda Thomson** referring to the Peele Heritage book but more importantly about some pictures that she has on Peele related families which she needs help in identifying.

Horace,

It [The Peele Heritage] looks great although I haven't had much time to dive into the book. I have glanced through it and I am looking forward to reading the "The Peels, A Family Sketch" and reviewing certain cousins where I know they are related, but I haven't taken the time yet to figure out exactly how. Maybe I will be able to figure out who (or at least possibilities of who) this little girl is in one of the photographs my family has.

Linda

I asked Linda what pictures these were and got this response:



Horace, The picture I mentioned is posted at [http://www.itsallinthesynapse.net/Unidentified\\_McCracken.html](http://www.itsallinthesynapse.net/Unidentified_McCracken.html) It is the very first photo and was taken in New York. Based on the type of photo, it is most likely early 1900's. If you would like to feature it in the newsletter that would be great. I have a number of photos on that page that are unidentified. All the photos with the name PC# are from the Peelle/Peele family photo collection. If you would like to have them in the newsletter as a collection of "Who is this?" or share some over time that would be great. All of the photos should download at a reasonable quality. I thought it would be easier for you if I pointed you to them than if I emailed them.

Thanks, Linda Thomson

There are many other pictures shown in that collection. The next page shows a sample of the first few. I encourage each of you to use the Internet link above, look at the pictures and see if you can help Linda identify these cousins. If you do identify any, please let me know. Those of you, who do not have Internet, please get someone to show you. Patti, notice there are some McCrackens in these.

# Unidentified Photos

## Ellis - Jury - McCracken - Peelle and related families

The photos marked "PC" indicate that they were among the Peelle Collection of photos that a distant cousin had obtained. The photos marked "EJPM" indicate that they were among photos of the Ellis, Jury, McCracken, Peelle families. "MC" photos were with photos thought to be McCracken's. None of the photos were clearly marked. Can you identify anyone in the photos? Even have a guess? If so, [email me](#).

▶ Play Slideshow



PC1  
Taken in New York City



PC2



PC3  
Peelle?



PC4  
Peelle?



PC5



PC6  
Sarah Peelle Longecker?  
(Doesn't quite look right)



PC7



PC8

## Feature Article

### DNA Finding James Peelle

The story of James Peelle, son of David Peelle (1754-1807) is documented in the *Peelle Chronicles* on pages 152-159. My Great Great Uncle James Peelle, brother to my Robert Peelle, was born 11 November 1794 just disappeared when he was a young man. Here is a partial extract from the book since everyone does not have the *Peelle Chronicles*.

**David Peelle (1754-1807)**, the son of Robert Peelle (1730) and Margaret B. Jossey (1732), was born on his father's plantation in Northampton County, NC, on an unknown date in 1754. He lived with his father in Northampton County until 07 April 1773 when he and his father both requested a certificate of transfer from Rich Square Quaker MM to Great Contentnea MM in Dobbs County, NC. Robert-1730 purchased land in Dodds County, which later became Wayne

County when it was formed in 1779. That land included two tracts forming 220 acres where David and Priscilla raised their family. David received the land from his father by a Deed of Gift in 1790. Robert gave his sons Willis and David adjoining lands where they settled and lived until they died.

David married **Priscilla Fletcher (1771-1807)**, daughter of Joshua Fletcher (1734) and Sarah Fletcher (1740) on 9 February 1794 at the Great Contentnea M in Wayne County, NC. They raised four children from 1794 to 1806. This was a tragic family, and unfortunately it is my direct line. Something makes me think that David had some sort of lingering sickness based upon these factors:

- His father gave him the land on which he lived.
- He did not get married until he was 40 years of age.
- He wrote his will seven years before his death.

When David wrote his will in 1800, his oldest son James (the missing one) was only six years old, Polly was four, and Priscilla was three months pregnant with our great-great-grandfather, Robert. Both David and Priscilla died in 1807, age 53 and 36 respectively. They had the shortest life spans of any of my ancestors. They left four young orphaned children, James - just 13, Polly - 12, Robert - 6, and Fletcher less than 2.

Instantly Guardians were appointed by the court for the orphaned children. Abbie F. Saucer, a granddaughter of Fletcher Peelle, wrote in a 1909 letter that Willis and Betsy raised the four young children. I contacted the Wayne County Court House to see if there were any guardianship records on file, and I was were told there were none. However, Mrs. M. R. Mason, of Fremont, NC, sent me a copy of the guardianship appointments records that she retrieved from the North Carolina State Archives. There was no appointment for Fletcher Peelle included in the records.

<b>Child</b>	<b>Guardian</b>	<b>Relationship</b>	<b>Appointed</b>
James Peelle	Willis Peelle	Uncle	18 Nov 1807
Polly Peelle	Joshua Fletcher	Uncle	18 Aug 1812
Robert Peelle	Joshua Fletcher	Uncle	About 1807
	William Lancaster	Polly's Husband	18 Nov 1816
Fletcher Peelle**	Willis Peelle	Uncle	Nov 1808??

But here is where James became so important to his siblings in fulfilling the items in his father David's will. David gave his plantation to his son James, who was only six-years-old when David wrote the will. James would get the plantation after Priscilla's death providing that he fulfilled certain requirements. David stated in the will that he considered "the lands left to my son James Peelle is too great a proportion out of my Estate therefore" and required that "James shall pay his sister Polly, one hundred dollars when she arrives at lawful age to receive it."

David also stated in his will "whereas I have some apprehension that my wife is with child if so and it shall be raised up to maturity my will also is that my son James Peelle shall pay to that said child the sum of two hundred dollars when it comes of lawful age to receive it; and if it shall be a male child my will is that he shall be bound an apprentice at a suitable age to some profitable trade." David further stated that "if my son James Peelle shall refuse or neglect to pay these moneys to his sister Polley [sic] & to this newly conceived child as above hinted" that the land left to James would be sold to pay these children. James would have the remainder, if any. What a burden for someone who was only 13 years old at the time of the death of his parents.

The unborn child mentioned in the will was my great great grandfather Robert Peelle, born 25 February 1801. A bigger surprise before David's death, he and Priscilla had another child, Fletcher Peelle, born 14 December 1805. David never wrote a new will; it did not mention Robert by name, or his youngest son Fletcher. But James had still his obligations.

The children were in good hands since two Peelle brothers married two Fletcher sisters and they lived on adjoining tracts of land given them by their father. David's younger brother Willis-1763 married Priscilla's older sister Betsy Fletcher (1765). Willis was named the executor of Priscilla's estate and sold everything except the land in an estate sale on November 25, 1807. The last item sold was their dog; it sold for £2/12/0 to Theofelus Best. The sale brought a total of £267/17/0. This money was later distributed to the children and well as money from the sale of the land. What happened to the children? In the Peele Chronicles, I included the following similar information on their movements.

The oldest child, James Peelle, sold the last 20 acres of the land that he inherited from his father to his uncle and guardian, Willis Peelle, for \$200 early in 1818. This sale was recorded in the Wayne County court February Term, 1818. It is believed that James left Wayne County, NC, about that time and it was thought to have moved to Arkansas. But several searches never found a positive link. The 1840 census in Van Buren County, Arkansas, shows a James E. Peel, aged 40-50, with four boys and two girls. Was that our James?

The second child, Mary "Polly" Peelle married William Sanders Lancaster. She and her husband remained in Wayne County, NC, where they had eight children. Mary was the only family member that stayed in her birth location.

Their third child, Robert Peelle, moved to the border area of Richmond County, NC and Marlboro County, SC, with his 1st Cousin Joshua Fletcher in 1817. He apparently got his trade school because he was working installing a telegraph line on the Old Wire Road when he met the farmer's daughter Mary Adams. He settled there in Richmond County, NC. They had sixteen children. All of them lived to become adults. There are about 3800 descendents from Robert and Mary.

The youngest son Fletcher is a different story. David's father Robert-1730 knew that his grandson Fletcher had not received an inheritance from his father, so he left Fletcher Peelle one hundred silver dollars in his own will, written in September 1807. Priscilla, Fletcher's Mother, wrote her will on November 9, 1807, leaving Fletcher another \$200. She died one week later, on November 16, 1807. Fletcher was only sixteen months old when his father died, 23 months old when his mother died, and only 35 months old when his grandfather died in November 1808. But he was quite a wealthy child; he had inherited \$300 before the age of three. On 14 October 1826, Fletcher signed out of the Contentnea Quaker Meeting House in Wayne County, NC, and moved to Bartholomew County, Indiana. He moved just two months before his 21st birthday, 14 December. He was a rich young man traveling west. He provided much for all his children. He married and had eight children. All three of his sons died before having any children. The Peelle name ended in this line.

That is a synopsis of the family and the children. On April 8, I received the following very interesting email.

Horace,

I am trying to trace my Peel branch. I am not really well versed in the lingo of Genealogy, but I will try to explain to you what I am looking for:

My Father was Charles Richard Peel, born 1936 to Charles Henry Peel (born 1896 Marshall County, KY) to Samuel Henry Peel (born in Marshall county KY, 1860). Samuel's mother was Elizabeth (McCracken) Peel (from NC) - she later married Nathan Hanks. I believe his Father was **James Peel** from NC - Born circa **1795**.

Do you have any information on this branch of Peels that settled in Marshall County Kentucky? I have hit a wall and would love to make a connection.

Thanks, Patti Whittington

I immediately picked up on the name of **James** and the date of **1795**. I responded:

"Patti, You have my attention on the James, what do you know of him? Any dates of death? Other clues?"

Excitedly, I awaited her response. After we exchanged a few more emails and got into more detail, there became the distinct possibility that we had found my missing James. I asked Patti if she there was male descendent in the family that would be willing to take a DNA test to see if we were kin. Patti worked miracles; her Uncle Robert Wayne Peel agreed to submit the test. The DNA kit was ordered from "familytreedna.com" in April and submitted May 2013.

On the 26th of June, we got the test results but before I jumped to conclusions I wanted to ask the expert, so I asked Don Kincaid. He made the following statement:

"The DNA results prove James and Robert could have been brothers and were likely close kin. Did this James and Robert live in the same area or show on any census?"

I informed Don that there was evidence that this was the James Peele that we had been seeking. In comparing the **Y-DNA37** markers, between us, they show **0 (zero) mismatches**, with the probability that **(220264) Horace Bullard Peele** and **(285926) Mr. Robert Wayne Peel** shared a common ancestor within the last...

4 generations is 83.49%.	16 generations is 99.93%.
8 generations is 97.28%.	20 generations is 99.99%.
12 generations is 99.55%.	24 generations is 100.00%.

**Getting "0" Zero mismatches for 37 markers is outstanding.** I informed Patti and asked her to inform her Uncle Robert Wayne Peel that he is my 4th cousin and a direct descendent of The First Peele Family In America. He can read a lot of history at <http://www.Peele.info>

Research by Patti has been fantastic. She has proven that James got married in Wayne County, NC before leaving on his move to Kentucky. She also obtained the names of the children and James' wife. He married an Elizabeth McCracken when he was about 21-22 years of age. She was about seven years younger than James and had her first child about the age of 15. They are shown in the 1820 Wayne County, NC, census as follows below. The names in "(...)" are not in the census but were entered by Patti in her analysis.

James Peel, Home in 1820, Wayne County, North Carolina  
Enumeration Date: August 7, 1820

Free White Persons - Males - 16 thru 25:1 (James Peel)  
Free White Persons - Females - Under 10:2 (Elizabeth & Mary Ann Peel?)  
Free White Persons - Females - 16 thru 25:1 (Elizabeth McCracken)  
Number of Persons - Engaged in Agriculture:1 (James Peel)  
Total Free White Persons:4.  
Note: James' Uncle Willis Peel is on same page of the census.

They moved to Calloway County, Kentucky after the birth of their third child David in 1823. The 1830 Census for Calloway County, KY, show that the first three children were born in North Carolina, as well as wife Elizabeth.

James Peel, Home in 1830, Calloway County, Kentucky  
Free White Persons - Males - Under 5:1 (John Peel)  
Free White Persons - Males - 5 thru 9:1 (David Peel)  
Free White Persons - Males - 30 thru 39:1 (James Peel)  
Free White Persons - Females - Under 5:1 (Nancy Peel)  
Free White Persons - Females - 5 thru 9:1 (Mary Ann Peel?)  
Free White Persons - Females - 10 thru 14:1 (Elizabeth Peel)  
Free White Persons - Females - 30 thru 39:1 (Elizabeth McCracken)  
Total Free White Persons:7

Unfortunately, James died early in life shortly after the birth of Henry C. Peel in 1832. Elizabeth remarried in 1850 to a Nathan Hanks but then she dies in 1852-1853 as proven by the sale of land that had been left to her by Hugh McCracken for her lifetime and then to her children. Patti's outstanding work gives us the following family tree, still subject to more discoveries and changes:

### ***Descendants of James Peelle***

**1. James<sup>8</sup> Peelle** (David<sup>7</sup>, Robert<sup>6</sup>, Robert<sup>5</sup>, Robert<sup>4</sup>, Robert<sup>3</sup>, Robert<sup>2</sup>, Lawrence<sup>1</sup>) was born 11 Nov 1794 in Wayne Co., NC, and died Bet. 1832 - 1835 in Calloway Co., KY. He married **Elizabeth McCracken**, daughter of Hugh McCracken. She was born about 1801 in NC, and died 1852-53 in Marshall Co., KY.

Children of James Peelle and Elizabeth McCracken are:

- 2 i. Elizabeth<sup>9</sup> Peel, born 1816 in Wayne Co., NC<sup>2</sup>; died in Benton, Marshall Co., KY. She married Jesse Thompson 25 Apr 1830 in Calloway Co., KY; born Abt. 1810.
- 3 ii. Mary Ann "Polly" Peel, born Abt. 1818 in Wayne Co., NC. She married John Bohannon 31 Jul 1836 in Calloway Co., KY; born 1812 in TN.
- 4 iii. David Peel, born 1823 in Wayne Co., NC. He married Mary H. [Peel]; born 1830 in KY.
- 5 iv. John Peel, born Abt. 1827.
- 6 v. Nancy H. Peel, born Abt. 1830; died 08 Sep 1855. She married William Gilbert 14 Feb 1850.
- 7 vi. Henry C. Peel, born 05 Oct 1832 in KY; died 18 May 1912 in Peay Cemetery, Benton, Marshall Co., KY. He married Martha E. Peay 09 Sep 1856 in Home of M. Peay; born 1836 in KY; died 09 May 1891 in Marshall Co., KY.

I pass my heartfelt thanks for a **JOB WELL DONE** to Patti and her Uncle Robert. It is wonderful to have new cousins and to find my missing Great-Great Uncle James Peelle ending a long search from my brother Marvin and myself. I am sure that we will develop more information on James.

The Peel DNA Project has been a great help in solving missing links. We now have six major entries in our DNA table. The results of which have been beyond my wildest dream.

Participant	Distance In Steps	# Generations/percentage to common ancestor			Comments
		4 Gen	8 Gen	12 Gen	
James Everett Peele 1945	0	100 %	100 %	100 %	Proves Jesse-1760, son of Jesse-1720, son of William-1679. (Barton Lewis)
Alvin J. "Buddy" Peel 1928	3	59 %	89 %	97 %	Proves John Peal-1750, son of Robert-1712, son of William-1679. (Susie Smith Wood) (Paul Hassell Peel, Jr.)
Charles Ernest Peel 1951	1	58 %	88 %	97 %	Proves that Reuben Peel-1760 is a direct descendent of the family yet he remains disconnected genealogically.
Horace B Peele 1937	1	56 %	87 %	96 %	Used as basis for comparison with his direct line to Lawrence 1601
Robert B Peelle 1945	3	29 %	68 %	89 %	Used as basis for comparison with his direct line to Lawrence 1601
Robert Wayne Peel 1942	0	83 %	97 %	99 %	Proves that James Peel of Calloway-Marshall County, KY, is the son of David Peelle (1754-1807) from Wayne County, NC.

Keep the DNA going! I love it! Here is a short bio from my new found Cousin Patti.



*Patti*

### **Patti Peel Whittington**

I was born in 1970 to Charles Richard and Vanna Louise (Nussbaum) Peel in Cape Girardeau County, Missouri, where I reside today. I graduated in 1988 from Jackson High School and from Southeast Missouri State University in 1996 with a degree in secondary education. I have taught Language Arts for 17 years and am currently the Embedded Language Arts coordinator at the Cape Career and Technology Center in Cape Girardeau. My husband Scott and I have four children ages 15-26.

As a child, I was surrounded by family. Weekends were spent with cousins playing in cornfields, building secret forts, swimming, and various other childhood adventures. With 58 first cousins, the opportunities for memories and mischief-making were abundant.

My father, Charles Peel, known affectionately as "Dick" by friends and family, was a true family man, devoted husband, and a role-model father. I didn't realize until years after his death in 1988 that my dad was the mortar that kept the Peel family close. He helped organize a Peel family campout that became a yearly event and still is to this day. He organized one family reunion at our farm where he rigged a cable and pulley system between two trees for a thrilling cable ride. My cousins still talk about that reunion and how fun it was.

In the late 90s, I developed a curiosity to know more about my dad's family. My amateur sleuthing skills lead me quickly to Marshall County Kentucky where I was able to piece together a great deal about my family, but the proverbial brick wall always drove my research to a screeching halt at my third great grandfather, James Peel from North Carolina. Who was he and why couldn't I tie him definitively to North Carolina?

This spring, facing the same brick wall and about ready to pack it all back away, I found Horace. The rest of this story has already been told by him in this newsletter. I can't put into words the elation I feel being finally knowing where we belong in the greater Peelle family.

# Family Obituaries



Robert Peelle

**Robert Beatty Peelle**, 93, died peacefully in his sleep March 16, 2013 with his youngest daughter by his side. He was born May 26, 1919 in Brooklyn, NY, a 'birth-right' Quaker, the oldest of the four children of Henry Edmund Peelle and Inez Beatty Peelle.

Bob was raised in Forest Hills, NY, and attended public elementary school there. Secondary school education was at Friends' Academy of Locust Valley, NY. At age 16, he was admitted to Swarthmore College, PA, and graduated with a BS in Civil Engineering in 1939. He earned an MME from NYU in 1941 and an MBA from Columbia University in 1979 at age 60.

Bob married Gertrude Elaine Maginniss (Gemmy), also a 1939 Swarthmore graduate, on April 11, 1942. They first lived in Schenectady, NY, where he worked for General Electric. They reared their six children in Manhasset and Roslyn, NY, while he worked for the Peelle Company, a multi-generation family business manufacturing industrial and elevator doors, based first in Brooklyn, then Bay Shore, NY. Bob and his brother eventually headed the company and oversaw its expansion to several operating plants. The two brothers retired in 1989, the control of the company being passed on to Bob's nephew and middle son. After living half a century on Long Island, Bob and Gemmy moved in 1996 into the Rydal Park retirement community. Gemmy pre-deceased Bob in 2009.

Of his various activities, Swarthmore College was a focal point. As a student, he lettered in soccer and lacrosse, and served as president of Kappa Sigma Pi fraternity. He had been alumni president of his class continuously since 1943. He and Gemmy attended alumni weekend every year and were members of Swarthmore's Legacy Circle. Throughout his adult life, Bob was very involved with community (residential association president) and church (Deacon, Sunday School teacher, choir). He enjoyed riding ocean waves, reading, and, with Gemmy, playing tennis, singing in choirs, and, especially, ballroom dancing. Annual family summer trips included Ocean Grove, NJ, and Deering Family Camp, NH. Bermuda and Vero Beach, FL, were favorite destinations for vacation later in life. Bob cared deeply about family, serving as the self-appointed record-keeper for his large extended one. Bob will be lovingly remembered as a people-person, philosopher, negotiator, teacher, raconteur, generous giver, and always the most energetic person in the room.

Celebrating his wonderful life are his six children and spouses: Howard & Carolyn Peelle of Shutesbury, MA; Robert & Susie Peelle, Jr. of Locust Valley, NY; Paul & Diana Peelle of Amherst, MA; Elaine & Brian Roquemore of Nashville, TN; Sallie Swartz & Alan Bernhardt of South Deerfield, MA; and Nancy Brien & Robb Daly of Washingtonville, NY; 21 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren; as well as his sister Marilyn Rath, his sister-in-law Dorothy Andrews, and numerous nieces and nephews.

His ashes will be united with his wife's and placed in the Peelle family cemetery in Rock Stream, NY. A celebration and memorial service will be held 10:30 Sunday May 5, 2013 at the Rydal Park Auditorium. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Congregational Church of Manhasset, 1845 Northern Boulevard, Manhasset, NY 11030, or the college/charity of your choice. Condolences may be sent to [peelle@alum.swarthmore.edu](mailto:peelle@alum.swarthmore.edu).

Genealogical Line — 11<sup>th</sup> generation to Lawrence: **Robert Beatty "Bob"<sup>11</sup> Peelle** (Henry Edmund<sup>10</sup>, John<sup>9</sup>, Henry Edmund<sup>8</sup>, James<sup>7</sup>, Edmund<sup>6</sup>, John Jellary<sup>5</sup>, Robert<sup>4</sup>, Robert<sup>3</sup>, Robert<sup>2</sup>, Lawrence<sup>1</sup>) [Robert was my 6th cousin once removed, I am sorry to hear of his passing.]

**“Lawrence, Etc.”  
The Official Newsletter of  
“The First Peele Family in America”.**

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**Lawrence, Etc.** is published quarterly: January-March, April-June, July-September, and October-December. Its title is in honor of the family ancestor **Lawrence Peele** who arrived in Virginia as a young immigrant in 1621.

**TO:**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Editor:** Horace Peele

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