

News, Updates, & More

Varner Family Genealogy

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FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

Another year is now underway. From my perspective it has been non-stop distraction. Getting settled at the new location.

As it is now March, we are less than three months from this year's family reunion. Now is the time to start making arrangements to attend!

See the "2014 Newton/Varner/Riggs Family Reunion" section below for time and date details.

This month's newsletter contains resources that can be used to assist the genealogist in finding more information about their ancestor. As with most everything now a days, information costs money. A subscription is required to search many of the online resources. While seemingly costly to pursue, there are ways to more economically pursue genealogy records.

- Share what information you already have with other family members. Someone else may be spending money to look for a specific detail that you already possess.
- Use those site that are free to obtain as much as possible.
- Take advantage of free trials, and free days, when you can have access to those sites that normally have subscription costs.
- Sites regularly offer specified initial timeframes for you to “try their site”. This does require you provide a credit card, and the subscription cost is automatically charged to your card after the free trial period. All you have to do however, is cancel the subscription before the trial period ends and the cost to you is nothing. Just remember that you must cancel before the period ends. If you miss this deadline, you may be contractually obligated to continue the subscription to several months, or a year depending upon the details.
- Periodically go back and search again those places you already searched. Online sites, libraries, and even the National Archives are constantly indexing and making available new data.
- Do not assume that because someone else has search a particular data base, that they have found

everything available there. People search using different methods. The only way to be sure the specific information you desire is not available is to search for yourself.

- Finally, I have to push for DNA again. With DNA results, you will very likely have one or more fairly close matches. These matches are living individuals that can be contacted. Most individuals are welcome to these contacts. A trove of unknown details, or whole new family branches might be lurking out there somewhere.

<http://home.kc.surewest.net/btvarner/VarnerGenealogy.htm> is the Varner Family Genealogy Website. Some of the files require a password to open. That password is: VarnerFamily. Please do not provide this password to anyone else. Send them to me so I can keep track of who might access the information. A password is required to prevent unauthorized changes to those documents.

NEW FOR GENEALOGY RESEARCH

Newly available genealogy records for research.¹

Some new things are happening in the world of Genealogy. Thought it might

¹ Info obtained from the web based “Genealogy In Time Magazine”. More details can be found on that site.

be of value to discuss some of the material.

Ancestry.com has added a new collection of Iowa marriage records. Consisting of some 612,000 Iowa marriage records spanning 1923 to 1937. As is normally the case, records are searchable by name, date, or location of marriage. This adds to the existing Ancestry collection of Iowa marriage records from 1851 to 1900.

Ancestry.com has also expanded their collaboration with FamilySearch.org. An added one billion records held by FamilySearch.org will become available on Ancestry. These are records that have already been available on FamilySearch.org and are in addition to the previous announcement to digitize a separate 1 billion records. These additional records come from some 67 different countries.

Ancestry.com has teamed up with the New York City Municipal Archives to compile an index to more than 10 million New York City birth, marriage and death records. The index is free to search. Ancestry is expanding their New York State census collection to include 1855, 1875 and 1905.

Ancestry.com has a collection of US school catalogs. These are basically yearbooks of middle schools, junior high schools, high schools and colleges from across the United States. This collection contains some 5.4 million records and

spans the years from 1765 to 1935. Records can be searched by name, location, year and keyword.

Access to Ancestry.com is by subscription.

Archives.com has added 5 million US vital records to their collection. This is the first significant addition to that website since it was purchased by Ancestry.com earlier in 2013. Additions include Alabama marriage records (1816 to 1957), Arizona birth records (1907 to 1917), Arizona marriage records (1888 to 1908), Arizona death records (1910/11 and 1933 to 1994), California birth records (1812 to 1988), California marriage records (1850 to 1945) and District of Columbia birth, marriage and death records (various dates). Coverage is not complete for those states, and seems to vary by county. Access is also by subscription.

MyHeritage.com now has online a massive collection of 816 million recent US public records. Records come from recent telephone books, property tax assessments, voter registration lists and credit applications. The collection spans the years from 1970 to 2010. 118 million of those records are to their UK collection. MyHeritage has traditionally been known for family trees, but now is building up databases of historic records. Most of the additions to the UK collection are birth and christening records. These records cover the years from 1538 to 1975. If a search finds

records for related individuals, it shows those also. Access to this site is by subscription.

Genealogyintime.com is a very large free genealogy search engine that contains worldwide ancestral records. An additional 100 million records have been recently indexed. This site now searches over 3.1 billion records from around the world, and it is free.

QUESTIONS

Q: What will be presented at this year's family reunion?

A: I have not received any specific information on what presentations will occur this year. There always seems to be tables with old family photos at the event. While I may try to put something interesting together, that is not certain because of other commitments of my time between now and the reunion.

If you have any ideas for, or are planning on presenting something, please let me know so I can increase anticipation for the event. Thanks!

NEWS

VARNER'S & WORLD WAR I: History from the war years: 1914 to 1919.

In keeping with this month's theme of new genealogy sources, here are some

interesting places to increase your genealogical and historical knowledge of that timeframe.

Fold3.com is a genealogy site that specializes in military records. While the National Archives does a fine job in this area, many of the National Archives data is not indexed online. Fold3 has many military related records that are hard to come by elsewhere, such as government records related to conduct of the different US wars. Access to this site is by subscription.

Missouri Secretary of State at "<http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/soldiers/>" provides soldier records and other military information on individual participants. Access is free.

On this site I was able to locate 13 Varner's from Missouri that were in the military during the war. Anyone familiar with the others below?

Beecher J. Varner

Clarence S. Varner

Earl Dayton Varner

Earl (MCR) Varner

Isaac L. Varner

James Marten Varner

Jarrot B. Varner

Leland L. Varner

Milton K. Varner

Raymond J. Varner

Robert E. Varner

Robert L. Varner

Wesley H. Varner

From the entry for Sheridan (Clarence S. Varner), on the Secretary of State site

above, I was able with some initial searching to locate the below record. Now for more research.

VARNER, CLARENCE S.
(Surname) (Christian name)

1,163,555
(Army serial number)

W
(Race)

Residence:

EDITH,
(Street and house number)

MO
(Town or City)

MO
(County) (State)

*Inducted at: **LINN CREEK, MO**

on 3/21/1918

Place of birth: **EDITH, MO**

Age or date of birth: **22 ½ YRS**

Organizations served in, with dates of assignments and transfers:
AVIATION SCHOOL KELLY FIELD, TX TO DISCHARGE

Grades, with date of appointment:
PVT 10/1918

Engagements:

Wounds or other injuries received in action:

Served overseas from † To † from † To †

Honorably discharged on demobilization **Y**

In view of occupation he was, on date of discharge, reported **N** per cent disabled.

Remarks:

Form No. 724-1, A.G.O. *Strike out words not applicable. †Dates of departure from and arrival in the U.S.

Varner /Riggs Connection Update

I do plan on providing the DNA lineage chart at this year's family reunion.

2014 Newton/Varner/Riggs Family Reunion

The 2014 reunion will be held Saturday, May 24, 2014 from 9am through the afternoon, at the Polk County Senior Center, 1850 W. Broadway Street, Bolivar, Missouri. Pot luck lunch at noon (contribute your own food) with paper plates, cups, forks, napkins provided.

For specific reunion questions contact Linda Cushman

lindacushman45@gmail.com

417-326-4387

Some folks arrive as early as around 10 am. Most others closer to lunchtime.

George Varner of Missouri Direct Line DNA

Please consider contributing DNA if you are a direct male descendant from George Varner. Always looking for new candidates. There are holes to fill. Includes any male to male direct descendants of:

John D. Varner (1854-1929)

Glenn Varner (1852-)

Francis Marion Varner (1847-1904)

Samuel Philip Varner (1846-1896)

Edward Varner (1839-1916)

George Washington Varner (1838-)

Thomas J. Varner(1836-)

A George Varner Line

No lines presented this month. Will provide different lines in coming months.

Please make subject suggestions to help me provide a wide monthly perspective for everyone.

Bruce Varner