



Apr 15, 2024

This newsletter may of interest to persons related directly or indirectly to Grace and Clifford Retson. My genealogy website is located at <http://www.retson.ca/retsongeneology.html>

Online Trees

Online trees have become the main source of storage for amateur genealogists who don't wish to pay money for software or online subscription services. I joined my first online trees at geni.com years ago but have since stopped monitoring it when it became commercialized. Iin 2012 Geni was purchased by My Heritage and became a My Heritage company. Ancestry.com was originally owned by the LDS church before being sold off as an independent company. Both these on-line trees have the advantage of being able to take advantage of paid subscriptions with billions of records which can be attached to the on-line trees.

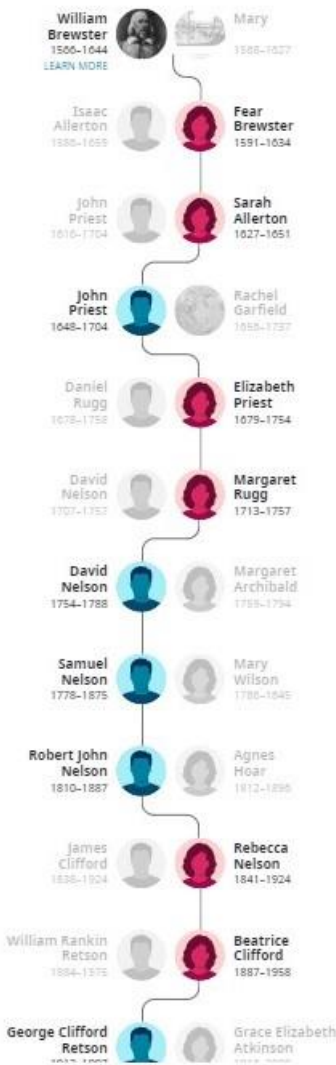
I have commenced to add links to various ancestors to two of the most popular online trees Familysearch.org and Wikitree at <https://retson.ca/retsonvirtualcemetery.pdf> . During the past month I have been using these two On-line trees sites to add to my profile on some of my German ancestors, the Jung(s) and the Haus(es).

The Family Search site is maintained by the Latter-Day Saints Church, often referred to as Mormons. A quick google search will set out the major tenants of this faith group. Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, often referred to as Mormons, research their family history because of their strong faith in the eternal nature of families. Mormons believe that families can be together forever when "sealed" through a special temple ordinance, or ceremony. These ceremonies can be performed not only for the living but also on behalf of ancestors who have previously died. For this reason, Mormons are encouraged to research their family history to identify their ancestors and learn more about their lives. Those deceased ancestors who did not previously receive their ordinances can be submitted for baptism and other "temple work" so that they might be saved and reunited with their family in the afterlife. The most common saving ordinances are baptism, confirmation, endowment, and marriage sealing.

You don't have to believe any part of their faith to benefit from the strong emphasis that the LDS church places on family history. The LDS church has gone to tremendous lengths to preserve, index, catalog, and make available billions of genealogical records from all over the world. They share this information freely with everyone, not just church members, through the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, satellite Family History Centers around the world, and their FamilySearch website with its billions of transcribed and digitized records available for free family history research. I have benefited considerably from their research and highly recommend it to anyone interested in genealogy. Sometimes those who I recommend the site to are afraid because of its religious affiliation. They are concerned that they may be harassed or subject to solicitation. I have made substantial use of the church's genealogy resources including 2 trips to Salt Lake city for research purposes. I have never had any negative experiences and can only speak positively about their willingness to assist in my personal genealogy.

Like any free service there are pros and cons. The first con is that the information should only be used as a source of leads and should not replace your own tree that is securely under your control. In general, the information is good and can provide useful leads that you can verify and adopt. Sometime the information is patently absurd. At the date I am writing this email the record for Margaret Millburn at

<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LKJY-T33> has her as the spouse and simultaneously the mother of the same Richard Ratson. This just isn't possible. An enthusiastic researcher connected the wrong Richard Ratson born in 1792 to Margaret Milburn. There are at least two other Richard Ratsons, born possibly in 1731 and his son born around 1760s. Unfortunately, many others connected to this 3rd Ratson including myself by accident. It will take some time to make the correction but in the future once the correction has been made the 3rd Ratson will no longer be connected to Margaret Millburn. The correct story can be found at <https://retson.ca/retson.pdf> (however the exact birthdate of Richard and Margaret have yet to be determined).



There are various interesting features at familysearch.org. One is the famous ancestors under the activity tab or go directly at <https://www.familysearch.org/discovery/famousrelatives> Since many of you share the same ancestors as myself many of our famous ancestors will be shared in common. The way this works is that computers at FamilySearch will take the tree that you entered and connect the various ancestors you have entered and follow other entries added by others to reach famous people. In order make this work you have to have an account and the more ancestors you identify, the more famous people you will link up to. However, the fact that the computers will make the linkup is no assurance of the accuracy of connection in the real world.

One category that caught my attention was the alleged relationship to 12 passengers on the Mayflower. The number of descendants of Mayflower passengers living in the United States in 1985 was estimated to be in the millions so if you can trace your ancestry to Massachusetts it would not be surprising if you are one. However, the proof is another thing. On my mother's side we track down through the Atkinsons, Spicers, Moshers, Wilcoxs to Elizabeth Cook, the daughter of John Cooke and granddaughter of Francis Cooke and Richard Warren these last 3 men being passengers on the Mayflower. This line I am reasonably certain.

On the father's side, unfortunately the lines to the other 9 individuals pass through one individual, Margaret Rugg, wife of a David Rugg. With the assistance of Jim Smith and the staff of the Colchester Museum I was able to get to David Nelson, husband of Margaret Archibald and my 4th great grandfather. This David was one of only four individuals from Truro who was prepared to swear an Oath of Allegiance to the King (Truro being a hot bed of American sympathizers.)

Years later, with another researcher, Carol Campbell, he concluded "Claims that he came from Lancaster MA or from the North of Ireland are equally viable but seemed flawed and lack documentation". I gave up my search at that time and haven't returned to it since. The Mayflower Society have published books that cover 5

generations to Margaret Rugg so if this one link could be established the connection to the other 9 would be complete (see the chart to one of the 9, William Brewster).

Using Family Search

The first step to using FamilySearch efficiently is to create a personal account. This will let you set up your own tree and link up to the multitude of historical records. Find a place to Save your password. Next, sign in to your account. Then click on "Get started". Next, click on picture entitled "Build your family tree". Add yourself, your parents and grandparents and as many relatives that you know of their birthdates or other events such as marriages and deaths. If they have already be entered various alternatives will be suggested for you to select. Sooner or later, you will find others have researched your ancestor which you add to your tree.

Ludwig Rudolf Nickel-Magdalena Nickel
 Johannes Jacob Jung-Barbara Nickel
 Hans Andreas Jung-Agnes Clausen
 Johann Theobald Dewalt Jung-Maria Catharina
 Schneider
 Ludwig Rudolf Nickel-Magdalena Nickel
 Johannes Jacob Jung-Barbara Nickel
 Hans Andreas Jung-Agnes Clausen
 Johann Theobald Dewalt Jung-Maria Catharina
 Schneider

Frederick Edward Von Hausen- Charlotte Justine
 Von Nettelhorst
 Joseph Hausen Haus- Ellen Retemaier
 Johan Christian Haus- Anna Catharine Becker
 Conrad Haus 1715 Kliene Altenstadten, Germany d.
 06 Aug 1777 Engelie "Angelina" Rheinhardt
 (son Johannes (HanJost) Haus; daughter Elizabeth
 Haus

9th great grandfather



Johannes Jacob Jung

b: Abt. 1620
 Pr. Dunzweiler, Zweibrucken, Ger
 d: Aft. 1696
 Pr. Dunzwebrucker

8th great grandfather



Hans Andreas Jung

b: 02 Dec 1645
 Dunzweiler, Kusel, Rheinland-Pfa
 d: 04 Oct 1696
 Dunzweiler, Zweibrucken, Rheinl

7th great grandfather



Johann Theobald Dewalt Jung

b: 12 Aug 1691
 Wetzlar, Lahn-Dill-Kreis, Hessen,
 d: 1763
 Chyle, Herkimer County, New Yor

6th great grandfather



Johann Adam Young

b: 17 May 1717
 Foxtown, Schoharie, New York, U
 d: 22 Feb 1790
 Grand River Reserve, Brant, Ont

5th great grandmother



Elizabetha Young

b: 12 Jun 1747
 Canajoharie, Montgomery, New Y
 d: 13 Apr 1813
 Maynard, Leeds, Ontario, Canad

4th great grandfather



Elizabeth Haus

b: 12 Jun 1768
 St. Johnsville, Montgomery, New
 d: 1824
 Augusta Twp, Grenville, Ontario,

In the Table above, I list some of our direct German ancestors, the Jung (s) and Haus(es) that I found in Family search:

I was able to use the two online trees to gain a great deal of information that has been added to my two family profiles at

https://www.retson.ca/jung_young.pdf and
<https://www.retson.ca/haus.pdf> .

The names evolved with time and migration. The German "Jung" became the English "Young" upon migration to North America in 1710. The German name "Haus" (originally Von Hausen) became the English "House". First names were also subject to anglicization upon arrival in North America. Johan (Latin Johannes) became John, Theobald, DeWalt and David were equivalent and our Seventh Great Grandfather was known by all three names in New York. Individuals were known to John, Dewalt to David. Individuals would be generally known by their second name.

Using traditional genealogy research methods I was able to trace my lineage back to Elizabeth Haus and her mother Elizabeth Young both of whom died in Ontario.

This line was what was known to the family as our "Pennsylvania Dutch". Initially I was told that these ancestors were merely of German background but since World War 1 used the moniker as a more favourable substitute. As I continued my research at a microlevel (Named Person) I began macro researching to get a better fix on the names and the mass migration.

One book that was incredibly useful was Walter Allen Knittle's Early Eighth Century Palatine

Emigration, A British Government Redemptioner Project to Manufacture Naval Stores. This book was immeasurably helpful in giving the Big picture and then years had to follow with more detail work to find the individuals out of the masses. To a lesser extent James Beidler's book Trace Your German Roots Online, A Complete Guide to German Genealogy Websites. This latter book directed to me to a number of websites at which I learned the geography, The political, social and religion history of the time. This research, together with a back and forth with traditional micro genealogy research, gave me an outline which I continued to improve on over the years.

The online trees of the direct ancestors and their siblings permitted details to be added. Various individual contributors, possibly because of the German background and knowledge of the language or because of family knowledge passed down or even their willingness to spend more money on research led to sharing information not available to others such as myself whose vast number of Ancestors are from the British Isles (estimates range from 91% to 99%). Elizabeth Haus's ancestors Johann Theobald Dewalt Jung emigrated in 1709 from Germany to London, England and then in 1710 to New York. In North America he used both his German name as well as its English Translation John Theobald David Young. During the American Revolution his sons sided with the British.

One of the most valuable aspects of these online trees is the sources they provide. For example, the onsite trees, <https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Jung-1594> directs you to <https://www.davidkfaux.org/ADAMYOUNGandCATHARINEELIZABETHSCHREMLING.htm> that gives a very detailed picture of John Theobald David Young's son, Adam who was our direct ancestor in our line.

This among other individuals on our maternal lines makes us descendants of United Empire Loyalists. For purposes of saving space I show only the first part of the relationship chart of these German ancestors with the fuller charts shown at https://www.retson.ca/jung_young.pdf which details the story of the Jung- Young Line.

Then with online trees I added the various spouses of the Jungs and the Hauses together with their children. I can't vouch for the exact birthdates for many as baptismal records are generally easier to verify. Along the way I got more details as to names that appeared on their baptismal records and subsequent names by which they were known. I got more exact dates as to their arrivals and even on what ships. I got considerably more information on their land holdings, their political leanings and military involvement.

The information provided in online trees and the source documents are secondary information all of which must be research and verified. But they provide valuable resources which can add to the stories of various ancestors.

As indicated above I have begun to keep track of online tree profiles together their find a Grave memorial at <https://retson.ca/retsonvirtualcemetery.pdf> .

This newsletter was sent to individuals who have expressed an interest in this genealogy at some time. If you do not wish to receive future updates, please email me at jretson@shaw.ca and indicate so.