

MFA NOVEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

The Middlebrooks Family Association

274 Wilder Drive, Forsyth, Georgia 31029

Happy Fall, Ya'll! We had an amazing MFA Annual Meeting in Orange, Virginia. The meeting was attended by 24 folks from Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, Texas, Rhode Island, and Virginia. I've seen the name Lana Shelton on many documents I've collected over the years. This year, I actually got to meet her! I was beginning to think the woman was some sort of urban legend. Legend she may be as she has amassed a considerable amount of not only information about her Middlebrooks line but also has some interesting theories about family connections. Sandy Ahmad gave an awesome presentation on the Nathaniel line along with some interesting theories of her own. Patty McGinty (a Nathaniel line Texan) shared an extensive yet friendly (for the reader) family tree. Even I could get from point A to point Z using her format. Ruth Craig gave not only a synthesized report of the Middlebrook Family but also some unique theories for the connections within the lines that often allude us. J.A. Middlebrook updated us on his "Find A Grave" research. By the way, for his latest research and additions, one needs to go directly to www.findagrave.com. President Bob worked his DNA magic and kept us organized and moving right along. Our Facebook administrator, Joyce Arnold, even brought Jim!

MFA filled two open board positions with Ri McGlamery and Leonard Middlebrooks. Our new Vice-President is Ella Tripp. MFA did exercise the option of opening an 2nd Vice President position which I will hold for two years. This particular position can be used at the discretion of the association and does always not have to be filled.

Our venue was amazing. In fact, the October issue of Southern Living Magazine lists Orange, Virginia as one of the most scenic spots in the South for "Chasing Fall Colors." We were a little early for peak colors, but I assure you, the scenery did not fail us in the least. Kudos to President Bob and First Lady Ruth for finding such a lovely spot.

As I have said often, I am NOT a genealogist by any stretch of the imagination. However, what MFA has afforded us in terms of knowing our past is remarkable. I came across this article in the June 2008 MFA Newsletter and thought how IF we follow at least some of the suggestions below, our descendants will be a "leg-up" on their genealogy research.

INSTANT BIOGRAPHY

The perfect time to start a portfolio of your life to leave for your descendants is now. Genealogists, more than most people, should be aware that we all will pass away eventually, and when we do, most of the knowledge of who we were and what we have accomplished will die with us unless we do something about it. Don't let another day go by before you start! Here's how to simplify the job.

- Gather all documentation you can find about yourself and put it in one place. This may include all sorts of things: newspaper clippings, letters, invitations, photos, certificates, resumes — the list is endless.
- Get a large binder, some page savers, and some dividers and tabs.
- Starting with last year, put everything that pertains to that year into one section. Then work backwards. The section just before that should include everything having to do with the previous year, and so on.
- Add a piece of paper at the beginning of each section. Write down all the significant happenings of the year. Don't worry about your writing. Sentence fragments are fine at this point. So is sloppy writing. The idea is to get it written down. Someday in the future, when you have more time, you can put it into better shape. What you are doing now will make the job easier.
- Keep doing that with your "artifacts" until you get back as far as possible. You will reach the point where you can't remember what happened in which year. Then you can add things by five-year increments (say 1945-1950) or even by decades.
- When you finish all your mementos, there will be an interesting, organized story. Whatever you do, do it now! Time is of the essence.

****See what one can find by going to www.middlebrooksfamily.org*



Find us on
Facebook

Don't forget to visit our Facebook page! It's a great place to see pictures, short family news-posts, and/or ask questions! Middlebrooks Family Association (MFA) will lead you to the Facebook page currently used by MFA. Thanks to Joyce Arnold, MFA Facebook Administration, for keeping a close eye on the site.

---Dues---

Membership and meeting dues were reviewed at our 2019 meeting. A determination was made that the following changes would apply beginning with 2020-2021 MFA year. Individual dues are \$20. Family/Household (those living at the same residence) are \$30.

Meeting dues remain \$25 for a non-member (MFA) and \$20 for a paid member.

Our fiscal year runs from August 1 to July 31. We are currently in 2020 year. If you have already paid dues as were expected in the past, you are good. For those paying dues now, please adhere to the new guidelines. There are two ways to pay your dues: send directly to The Middlebrook Family Association, 1027 Hunter Lake Estate, Crystal Springs, MS 39059 by check/money order OR via our website. The website allows the fee to be paid through PayPal or credit card. Look under the **About MFA** tab then go to **Membership**.

New members... please fill out a member sheet. Your demographics are important to the association.

Looking Ahead To 2020

Plans are under construction for our 2020 MFA Annual Meeting to be held in Covington, Georgia. Angelia Middlebrook Gantz will be our host! One of our members did said that Newton County has tons of documents on our family. Covington lies about 40 miles east of Atlanta.

Covington was founded by European immigrants to the United States. It was incorporated in 1822 as the seat of the newly organized Newton County. Covington was named for [United States Army Brigadier General](#) and [United States Congressman Leonard Covington](#), a hero of the [War of 1812](#). The settlement grew with the advent of the railroad in 1845. Covington incorporated as a city in 1854.

In 1864, [General Sherman's](#) troops marched through during their [March to the Sea](#). Although they looted the city, destroying numerous buildings, several [antebellum](#) homes were spared. The Covington Historic District and the North Covington Historic District within the city are both listed on the [National Register of Historic Places](#). The maps and materials describing these two districts are available for review through City Hall. The Covington Historic District contains Floyd Street and the downtown square. The North Covington Historic District contains North Emory Street and Odum Street as its hub. Both districts have an ordinance to preserve their character, regulating changes proposed for properties, and special permits may be required. The Covington Mill Village is also a vital part of local history. The Starrsville Historic District, site of the historic settlement of [Starrsville](#), is in the exurban area around Covington. The [Newton County Courthouse](#), brick store, and Salem campground are separately NRHP-listed. (Wikipedia)

Message from the President

Let me add my thanks to all who attended our 2019 Orange, Virginia meeting at Round Hill Inn. The facility and surroundings were beautiful. And thanks to those who made it a success.

After each annual meeting there is a list of things to start working on. Such as planning for the 2020 meeting in Covington, Georgia and following through on suggestions made at our 2019 meeting.

As stated in our August 2019 newsletter we commissioned Dr. Ruth Craig to conduct two advanced research projects to research the Middlebrooks lineage further than we have been able to document to date. She presented a PowerPoint presentation at our 2019 meeting and discussed her research projects. We now will follow through on our promise to share those two reports with our membership by posting them on our website. They will be placed under the new menu item of Research Documents.

We have created a new menu tab under the main tab of “MFA Projects.” This this new tab is labeled “Research Documents.” The policy and process for posting documents there is explained by this statement:

Definition Research Category: Articles or research documents that materially add to or enhances our knowledge and understanding of our Middlebrooks family history.

Our current focus of research is on the patriarchs:

Isaac b. 1753
John b. 1754
John b. 1755
Joseph b. 1610
Joseph b. 1773
Micajah b. 1758
Nathaniel b. 1764
Robert b. 1766
Sims b. 1762
Thomas b. 1763
Robert b. 1766

England Middlebrook(s)

Any other Middlebrook(s) whose ancestry is not known

Research should primarily focus on Middlebrook(s) families. An exception would be research information that may prove critical in establishing future Middlebrook family connections.

The inclusion of non-related family lines will be kept to a minimum.

Procedure:

Research documents will be submitted to the MFA President. The President will coordinate with persons submitting documents and the MFA webmaster.

The MFA President in consultation with a knowledgeable board member or team leader etc. will evaluate documents.

*The Middlebrooks Family Association wishes to thank Dave Clark, our web master for his invaluable assistance. Dave provides this valuable service free of charge and is always there to help us. He sends out newsletter links, makes changes to the website to accommodate us, and responds to varied questions that come up about related issues. And he enhances our efforts to make the website attractive and user friendly. **THANKS DAVE!***

Bob Middlebrooks

President, Middlebrooks Family Association

We all have Team Leaders! Check the last page for your MFA team leader. Inquiries and/or observations are usually addressed in a timely manner. Be patient, please. If in doubt, just email me and I will do my best to direct you to the appropriate person. dalekidwell07@gmail.com

Bob Middlebrooks, President

Ella Tripp, Vice President

Dale Kidwell, 2nd Vice President

Lanelle Middlebrooks, Secretary/Treasurer

Board of Directors

Bob Middlebrooks, President 2018-2020
Ella Tripp, Vice President 2019-2021
Dale Kidwell, 2nd Vice President 2019-2021
Lanelle Middlebrooks, Secretary/Treasurer 2018-2020
Angelia Middlebrooks Gantz 2018-2020
Leonard Middlebrooks 2019-2021
Neal Middlebrook 2018-2020
J.A. Middlebrooks 2019-2021
Leslie Shealy 2018-2020
Ri McGlamery 2019-2021

Ancestor Team Leaders

Isaac born 1753: Leonard Middlebrooks and Jean Shroyer
John b. 1754: Neal Middlebrook
John b. 1755: John David Middlebrooks and Leslie Shealy
Joseph b. 1610: Leonard Middlebrooks
Joseph b. 1773: Dave Clark
Micajah b. 1758: Mary Baker
Nathaniel b. 1764: Ella Tripp
Robert b. 1766: J.A. Middlebrooks
Sims b. 1762: Neal Middlebrooks
Thomas b. 1763: Joyce Arnold
England Middlebrooks: Ian Middlebrook and Neal Middlebrook
Unknown Ancestors: Leonard Middlebrooks and J. A. Middlebrooks

On-Going Projects

Cemetery: J.A. Middlebrooks and William Sterling
DAR-UDC: Jean Shroyer
DNA: Bob Middlebrooks and Dave Clark
Family Register Update and Repository: Leonard Middlebrooks
MFA Newsletter: Dale Kidwell
MFA Website: Dave Clark and Leonard Middlebrooks
Military Register Update: Kerry Middlebrooks/Ri McGlamery

Email Directory

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Dave Clark
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Ri McGlamery
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Ella Tripp
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Middlebrooks Family Association, Inc. (MFA) was found in 2001 for the purpose of assembling and preserving genealogical and historical material for our future Middlebrook/e/s generations.

MFA Web Site: <http://middlebrooksfamily.org/> The *MFA Newsletter* (currently MFA's only publication) is published and sent to all present and former members and is available to the general public each February, May, August, and November. You may request to be removed from this list by contacting Dale Kidwell at dalekidwell07@gmail.com