

# **MFA AUGUST 2020 NEWSLETTER**

## **The Middlebrooks Family Association**

**274 Wilder Drive, Forsyth, Georgia 31029**

Hello Middlebrook/s Family. 2020 continues to be a bit outrageous, right? Recently I read an article by Chip Gaines entitled “Unwrapping Hope.” He referred to his excitement as a child when opening Christmas gifts. He said that anticipation, hope, his ability to have a dream were much more important than the actual gifts. As an adult, he knew that disappointments, letdowns, even heartache are an inescapable part of life; however, he strives to dream and hope and expect good things. Gaines concluded his article with the following statement: “Because what ends up fulfilling us isn’t found in the outcome of the things we wish for, but in the hope that we discover along the way.”

For me, the excitement of the Annual Middlebrooks Family Association Meeting got heated up during August with travel plans, meeting plans, and the anticipation of seeing everybody. I’m feeling a bit “letdown” (as Gaines said) at the thought of no physical meeting this year. I’ve even found that communication has diminished, and I miss that. So, I am going to hope that you all will embrace a virtual ZOOM MFA Meeting! Since I am using a “free” version of ZOOM, we will be limited to a 30-minute session. For that reason, we will plan two meetings: September 24 at 6 p.m. and September 26 at 6 p.m. If interested, please send me your email as I will need to send you an email for the easiest access to the meetings. ([dalekidwell07@gmail.com](mailto:dalekidwell07@gmail.com)) Call or text with any questions – 870-731-4226. You will need to download ZOOM.us on your computer and create your own free account.

Links: Dale Kidwell is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

**Topic: MFA 2020 Zoom Meeting One**

Time: Sep 24, 2020 06:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77515042060?pwd=VGh5THh4aFiTkR2a015akZRalhSU709>

Meeting ID: 775 1504 2060

Passcode: 4aZFWv

**Topic: MFA 2020 Zoom Meeting Two**

Time: Sep 26, 2020 06:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75634295883?pwd=bDdXVEVQNEhmNlF0Vk9rUjVnQktVUT09>

Meeting ID: 756 3429 5883

Passcode: 3sverF

*Certainly, this will not be the meeting we wished for, but hopefully, we will be able to get some MFA news, visit a bit, and discover some hope during this outrageous year.*

## President's Message

Jean Shroyer's passing is recounted elsewhere in this newsletter. Not only do we miss her as a friend and long-time member of the MFA, Jean was an avid genealogy researcher and was a fountain of knowledge. We will miss her involvement in our heritage search. She was a sounding board when we needed to run something past her to see if it was viable and she always came through. She made valuable contributions even as her health was failing. Her loss is felt.

2020 is proving to be a challenge across the board for us as individuals, cities, and schools. As a buddy of mine that served in the navy with me says at the end of all his emails. *We cannot control the wind, but we can adjust our sails.* The Covid19 virus is beyond our control as individuals but we can do our part by wearing masks and using social distancing. And the Zoom meeting proposed by Dale is an attempt to provide a second-best option to our annual meeting. I will join her Zoom meetings and I hope you do too.

### ***With Sincere Sympathy***

Carol Jean (Jean) Shroyer, age 74, of Art, passed away on Friday July 24, 2020 after a difficult two-year battle with a Parkinson's like neurological disease. Jean was born on September 26, 1945 in Texarkana, Arkansas to Juedon and Tex Yuma Middlebrooks.

Jean's father was career Air Force so growing up she lived in many different locations. But she always considered Austin and Central Texas home for it was there she met her future husband, Les Shroyer, an engineering student at the University of Texas. Jean and Les celebrated their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this last April. The first thirty years of her marriage found her relocating eleven times across six states to follow her husband's career assignments. In 1996 Les and Jean had an opportunity to permanently settle back in Texas where they purchased a home in Austin and a ranch in Mason County.

Jean's two great passions were the love of her family and historical research. From a life time of study Jean accumulated an encyclopedic knowledge of American colonial history and early Texas history. She was an avid genealogy researcher and an active member of the DAR and many historical societies. One of Jean's great joys was meeting new friends and finding how their family history intersected with her family history. To Jean a new found "cousin" was family even if the connection was back many generations.

Jean is survived by her husband Les of Art; daughter Susan Atnip and husband Skyler and grandchildren Joseph and Jessica Atnip of Pflugerville, Texas; and, daughter Margaret Shroyer of Buda, Texas.

Eleanor Holland, 89, passed away on May 9, 2020 in Kennesaw, Georgia. Eleanor was born in Mobile, Alabama on December 9, 1930 to the late Ellin Johnson Middlebrooks and William B. Middlebrooks. She was married to the late Richard R. Holland; Sr. Eleanor was Christian by faith and lived that faith daily. She was devoted to her family and enjoyed spending every moment she could with them. Eleanor was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother. She will be greatly missed.

Eleanor is preceded in death by her husband, Richard R. Holland, Sr.; parents, Ellin Johnson Middlebrooks and William B. Middlebrooks; and three brothers, James, Brewster, and Henry. She is survived by her children, Sharon (Edward) Bartlett and Rick (Patty) Holland; her grandchildren, Renea Pope, Adam Bartlett, Amber Fox, Autumn Holland, Brittany Childers, Brett Bertrand, and Rylee Holland; and eight great grandchildren, Ezekiel Pope, Sadie Bartlett, Sawyer Bartlett, Eli Bartlett, Jaxson Fox, Raegan Fox, Maelee Childers, and Nolan Childers.

## **Ibzan Middlebrooks**

**Ibzan Middlebrooks** (son of [Joseph Middlebrooks](#) and [Rachel Baxter](#)) was born Abt. 1802 in Hancock County, Alabama, and died Aft. 1846 in Nacogdoches County, Texas .He married [Jane C. Crawford](#) on Abt. 1820 in Greene County, Alabama, daughter of [Jesse H. Crawford](#) and [Hannah Warren](#).

The following information was graciously contributed on January 2009 by Geneva M. Garrett, a researcher who has done extensive research on this family. Should you want this article in full, please contact Dale Kidwell ([dalekidwell07@gmail.com](mailto:dalekidwell07@gmail.com)).

Ibzan Middlebrook was married to Jane C. Crawford in about 1823 Greene Co, Alabama. There is a story that Joseph Middlebrook, father of Ibzan, had moved to Greene Co, Alabama with some of his children before 1823. He and his wife lived there for several years, 1823-1832. Then they moved to Oktibbeha Co, Mississippi in about 1835.They left there about 1838, we have a church record that is dismissing Jane C. Middlebrook and her father-in-law Joseph Middlebrook. They moved to Chickasaw County, Mississippi.

Ibzan and Jane stayed there until after 1 Jan 1844 then moved to Texas and were there by 1 June 1844.They went to Nacogdoches County, Texas where Jane's father and mother Jesse and Hannah Crawford were living. There was a poll tax record in Texas, and it lists Ibzan Middlebrook in Nacogdoches County 1845.

Ibzan dies between 1845 and 1847.He is not found on a census or tax list. We do not find where he is buried. Jane is listed in 1847 and 1848 in a ledger in Nacogdoches and his name is not listed, most times the wife would not have been on the ledger but husband's name would have been listed.

His wife and family moved on to Navarro County and then to Limestone County to be picked up on the 1850 census..

Children of **Ibzan Middlebrooks** and **Jane C. Crawford** are:

- i.+[Anderson Crawford Middlebrooks](#), b. Abt. 1824, Greene County, Alabama, d. Bef. 1867, Karnes County, Texas.
- ii.+[Melissa Middlebrooks](#), b. Abt. 1826, Greene County, Alabama, d. Abt. 1844, Chickasaw County, Mississippi.
- iii.+[Amanda Middlebrooks](#), b. Abt. 1829, Mississippi, d. 1860, Robertson County or Karnes County, Texas.

- iv.+[James Byrd Middlebrooks](#), b. February 11, 1831, Greene County, Alabama, d. February 20, 1910, Dripping Springs, Hays County, Texas.
- v.+[Zenobia Shirley Middlebrooks](#), b. July 04, 1835, Mississippi, d. date unknown.
- vi.+[Annie Elizabeth Middlebrooks](#), b. July 04, 1835, Noxubee/Chickasaw, Mississippi, d. November 25, 1898, Cleveland County, Oklahoma.
- vii.+[Bernetta Belle Middlebrooks](#), b. 1838, Mississippi, d. January 1880, Grayson County, Texas.
- viii.+[Mary Jane Middlebrooks](#), b. June 01, 1844, Trinity River, Campo County, Texas, d. March 17, 1925, Coalinga, Fresno County, California.

***Paper is to write things down that need to be remembered. Our brains are used to think. Albert Einstein***

Had John Wesley Middlebrook not subscribed to Einstein's theory, we would not have the following information written 120 years ago this month.... August 1900.....

- 1<sup>st</sup>, Very hot
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Hotter. Mrs. Bell is very low with stomach trouble.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Combs folks come to town to day to stay a day or two.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, is a very hot day.
- 6<sup>th</sup> George is going out in Illinois to visit Bacon or Charley Pearmans, the boys here used to call Charly Bacon.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Mrs. James Bell died today at 10 minutes past 12 o'clock noon. Will be buried at Monteauma tomorrow about five o'clock in the evening.
- 8<sup>th</sup> This is one of the hot days.
- 10<sup>th</sup> We are washing today.
- 12<sup>th</sup> We had a good rain today,
- 14<sup>th</sup> Rained today again
- 15<sup>th</sup> Threatened rain all day but did not rain.
- 16<sup>th</sup> Commenced putting roof on south side of kitchen, put roof on north side summer of 1888. Mrs. David Dinsmore died this morning.
- 17<sup>th</sup> God but it is hot weather today. Mrs. David Dinsmore was buried this after noon in the cemetery on the home farm. She has not been well for a long time; she has been going down ever since the death of her husband which occurred two years ago or about.
- 18<sup>th</sup> This is the hottest day of the season so far; the register reached the 100 mark.
- 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday morning, Ab & Rose Jones have a boy baby at their house this morning.
- 20<sup>th</sup> Rose and the boy are getting along fine. Ab is as well as could be expected, this is the first boy.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Nothing to write to day.
- 26<sup>th</sup> Leem Snider brought his wife from the asylum today.
- 30<sup>th</sup> Thursday, Henry Martin is flying around town this morning very early. I wonder what is the matter, oh yes, I believe I know now, for I see Doctor Cove coming down from there. Cove says it is a boy and all right.

*From "Diary of John Wesley Middlebrook" by Ron Middlebrook. Permission to copy granted 8/3/20 by Ron Middlebrook via email ([centerstrm@aol.com](mailto:centerstrm@aol.com))*

## Middlebrooks Family Association, Inc.

Bob Middlebrooks, President

Ella Tripp, Vice President

Dale Kidwell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Lanelle Middlebrooks, Secretary/Treasurer

### Board of Directors

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### 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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*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](mailto:dalekidwell07@gmail.com)