

MFA Newsletter – November 2022
The Middlebrooks Family Association
274 Wilder Drive, Forsyth, Georgia 31029

Welcome to the changing seasons, and welcome to our new MFA subscribers: Joyce Arritt, Cori Cousins, Daniel Middlebrook, Joel Middlebrook, Todd Middlebrooks, and Randall Purtell. Should any of these names prompt you to ponder their connection to your Middlebrook/s Family, just shoot me an email, and I will direct your question accordingly. Dalekidwell07@gmail.com

As we return to holiday family gatherings, remember to use those family dinners and lazy dessert & coffee times to gather family history. YouTube, TikTok, Facebook, and probably some other advanced tools of sharing information that I do not even understand: use these opportunities to “preserve eyewitness accounts of life experiences from loved ones for future generations.” (Baylor University’s Institute for Oral History) “One thing almost all Americans share is regret that when we were children, we did not listen better when our parents, grandparents, and older relatives or friends told stories about people and places alive only in their memories,” said Lois Myers, associate director of the Institute. “Such oral traditions may be the most fragile links to our family history.” Regarding oral history and our MFA family, check out “The Oral History of William Ellis Middlebrooks and Mary Elizabeth Mead” told to Carolyn Middlebrook Lapeyrouse and submitted by Karen Herbert in the May 2012 Edition of the MAZE.

Rather than me giving a snippet of one of the MANY articles available on our MiddlebrookFamilyAssociation.Org website, you all take a stroll through Newsletters available from December 2005 until this newsletter as well as THE MAZE from December 2007 through August 2017. Also, there is an abundance of information in other places on our MFA Website. Just click on Your Middlebrooks Ancestry dropdown for access to research contributed by our MFA members.

MFA November 2022 President’s Message

Dr. Bob Middlebrooks

All of us have challenges and some more than others. While we sympathize and empathize with those who are facing difficulties, we are usually unable to do more than lend our support. Recently my favorite nephew provided some sage advice. He retired as a hospice minister and now is involved by leading a Sunday school class with a large following. His monthly newsletter reflects his deep desire to understand the suffering of others and to provide words of comfort. He has used the word “help” in a context that is very appropriate. In prayer we ask for help for ourselves in facing life and for help for others who are in pain or even financial difficulties. There is another meaning.

The idea being that we need help to help others. How do we help? Should we offer money? Should we offer to drive them to their doctor's visit? Should we just provide a sounding board so they can voice their frustrations in conquering the challenges they face? It is suggested that as we age, we need to know that we are not alone. Even with family members to stay in touch and offer personal help, there is a warmth that comes from hearing someone that is not family saying, "I am here for you."

As I continue as President of the Middlebrooks Family Association, I notice that I have gotten older. And I notice that our members have gotten older too. This does not make us obsolete, but it does cause us to adjust. Some of us are caregivers who find our free time diminished but still cherished. Our Middlebrooks Family Association remains relevant and important as we remember those who came before us.

This brings us to a need to use the word "Help" again. We need more help in participation by our members so we can remain a viable organization. Paying your membership dues is a fundamental help.

I'm proud of our association's successes over the years and I am optimistic that in the years ahead, we will continue to grow. This past couple of years have put us into a pause mode as we faced challenges by the Covid pandemic. While the Covid virus is not totally eliminated, the threat has reduced so we can have a brighter future in the United States and beyond. Yes, we do have members in other countries.

Thanks to our core members for continued participation and enthusiasm. Finally, I'd like to give a special shout-out of appreciation to our 2nd Vice President Dale Kidwell for her tireless work in helping keep the MFA a viable organization.

Wishing all of you a great and successful 2023.

November Spotlight MFA Member isMalinda Brooks

Malinda is a lifelong citizen of Pine Mountain, Georgia. She enjoys the hide and seek game where the ancestors hide, and we seek! Her skills in ancestry research and records analysis were kickstarted by her mother's interest in all the activities of close and distant relatives.

After finishing her primary careers of nursing and history school teaching, she enjoyed traveling. When home, Malinda volunteers as a local historian, a poll worker and supports numerous church and charity organizations.

Malinda is a coauthor with her siblings for two family genealogy books: Our Revolutionary Soldier, Jacob Brooks of Georgia (2013) and Middlebrooks of Harris (2017). She is currently working on a book for the Champion family reunions.

Malinda is a descendant of Isaac (born 1753) and is the great granddaughter of Georgia Ann Texas Middlebrooks Champion.

Thank you, Malinda, for your contribution to the Middlebrooks Family Association.

****This Spotlight information was provided by Ri McGlamery, Malinda's niece.**

With sincere sympathy....

Maria Duane “Ri” McGlamery died November 16, 2022 in Jacksonville, Florida. She was born March 10, 1957 in Jacksonville, Fla., the eldest child of the late William Franklin McGlamery, Jr. and Josephine Brooks McGlamery.

Ri graduated from Chipley High School in 1975 and Vanderbilt University in 1979 with a Bachelor of Engineering in materials engineering. She started her career in Washington, D.C. as a civilian engineer with the Strategic Systems Program Operations, Navy Headquarters, Department of Defense. After seven years, she was reassigned to Cape Canaveral, Fla. as naval launch director of Strategic Systems Ballistic Missiles. Following 25 years with the US Navy, Ri transferred to the US Air Force Command where she was employed at the Nuclear Counterproliferation Agency in Albuquerque, N.M.

After retiring, she traveled for several years by RV before settling down in Chipley. She was an active member of the Chipley Garden Club as a master gardener and was a member of the First Presbyterian Church.

Ri is survived by her sisters Brooke Grimes and husband, Danny, of Panama City, and Camille McGlamery of Chipley, as well as her niece, Trista McGlamery of Atlanta, Ga. She was preceded in death by her partner, Joe Adamson.

Funeral services were held November 22 at the First Presbyterian Church in Chipley, Florida with Rev. Ted Land officiating. Interment followed in Glenwood Cemetery.

The family requests memorial donations be made to the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs.

***I talked with Ri late October regarding our “MFA Member Spotlight” being her Aunt Malinda Brooks. Ri and I took a bit of time to discuss a wide range of topics. She was quite the gal. I’m blessed to call her family.*

Should any of you want to reach out to the family, you can do so through Malinda Brooks, P.O. Box 65, Pine Mountain, Georgia 31822.

*Life is short and we have never too much time for
gladdening the hearts of those who are travelling
the dark journey with us. Oh be swift to love,
make hast to be kind.*

Henri Frederic Amiel

Middlebrooks Family Association, Inc.

Bob Middlebrooks, President

Ella Trip, Vice President

Dale Kidwell, 2nd Vice President

Lanelle Middlebrooks, Secretary/Treasurer

Board of Directors

Bob Middlebrooks, President 2018-2022

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Leonard Middlebrooks 2019-2022

Neal Middlebrook 2018-2022

J.A. Middlebrooks 2019-2022

Leslie Shealy 2018-2022

Ri McGlamery 2019-2022

Ancestor Team Leaders

Isaac born 1753: Leonard Middlebrooks and Jean Shroyer

John b. 1754: Brent Bragg and 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 Project

Cemetery: J.A. Middlebrooks and William Sterling

DAR-UDC: Joan Miller

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

Middlebrooks Family Association, Inc. (MFA) was founded 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

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