

MFA December 2023 Newsletter
The Middlebrooks Family Association
274 Wilder Drive, Forsyth, Georgia 31029

Presidents Message

I would like to thank Bob Middlebrooks for his leadership and commitment as our MFA President, over the last six years. Bob has done an outstanding job in spite of having to deal with some very difficult issues such as, the Covid pandemic and family health. Bob has agreed to remain as our DNA Project Manager.

The MFA needs your help to remain a viable and active family association. Due to Covid and the aging out of our association, membership has declined. Outreach is critical to *attract new members and encourage past members to renew their membership*. Let us know, if you would like to help with outreach.

The purpose of the November 8th Zoom Meeting was to explore ideas for revitalizing our association. Some the ideas discussed include the following: *Encourage past members to renew their membership. Continue to focus outreach in attracting new members, using the MFA web site, Newsletter and Facebook. Plan a 2024 annual meeting and use more Zoom meetings to stay connected*. A number of other ideas/actions were discussed.

If you would like to assist in our efforts to revitalize the MFA, please let us know. A number of actions have already been drafted that would move us towards our goal of remaining a viable and active family association.

We are still actively seeking candidates to be considered for filling the MFA Presidents position.

Neal Middlebrook, Acting President

What are the Benefits of MFA Membership?

- **Help with building your Family Tree.**
- **Connecting with other Middlebrook Families**
- **Access to Research Reports, Update of the 1909 Register of the Middlebrooks Family and Family Trees.**
- **Attending MFA Annual and Zoom Meetings**
- **Participating in the DNA, Cemetery, Military Register or DAR-UDC Projects**
- **Access to the MFA Web Site and Newsletter.**
- **Helping Preserve our Family Heritage.**

You can join or renew your membership by clicking on the link

<https://middlebrooksfamily.org/membership/> You can pay by credit card or mailing a check to (made out to "MFA"), mail to MFA Treasurer, 104 Birchwood Circle, Cabot, AR 72023.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!
Come join us on January 24th
6:30 PM CST
MFA Social ZOOM Meeting

We will have an open forum to share anything about your family history, to meet others of our Middlebrook/s clan, and to explore the benefits of our Middlebrooks Family Association.

Email Dale at dalekidwell07@gmail.com for your ZOOM link to join the meeting OR access the following ZOOM invitation.

Topic: MFA Social Zoom Meeting

Time: Jan 24, 2024 06:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89061425915?pwd=OJjBb9GKgI2Hu6B8Il0uabw6MRBRd4.1>

Meeting ID: 890 6142 5915

Passcode: 067198

????? QUESTION ?????

**Could Nathaniel Middlebrook of Orange County, Virginia
be Garland Middlebrook of Culpeper County, Virginia ?**

The Register of the Middlebrook Family, 1909, by Louis Frank Middlebrook, lists on page 66: (87) Garland Middlebrook of Culpepper County, VA., son of John Middlebrook of Caswell County, NC, B. 1774, d. in Virginia. Children: (205) William, d. 1845 ,(206) John Garland, d. 1866 --- and Archibald.

Consider the possibility of Garland actually being our ancestor, Nathaniel of Orange County, Virginia and that son are William (Anderson), d. 1845 and John Garland, d. 1866. We already know from Nathaniel's will that they have a brother, Archibald, for whom the Register had no information.

Spotsylvania County, created in 1721, encompassed all land west to the Blue Ridge Mountains and was eventually divided into what is now called Orange, Culpeper, Madison and Rappahannock Counties. The area that is now Culpeper became part of Orange County when it formed in 1734. Culpeper was formed from Orange County in 1749. All records we have found,

thus far, regarding Nathaniel are from Orange County. Nathaniel's will mentions sons Garland, Anderson and Archibald. Compare Nathaniel's sons to those listed in The Register for Garland.

(205) William Middlebrook of Fountain County, Indiana, son of Garland Middlebrook of Virginia, m. Cynthia Gray. William d. 1845

Children: John Wesley Middlebrook b. 1835

Sarah b. 1838

Anna b. 1840

Our research shows that Anderson (son of Nathaniel) sold his shares of his father's estate in January 1833. Also, Anderson is listed as being of the County of Lawrence in Ohio at that time.

Per Lawrence County, Ohio Marriage Book, Cynthia Gray and William Middlebrook are married on October 23, 1833. The Register states that William died in 1845. The 1850 U.S. Census in Van Buren, Fountain, Indiana shows three Middlebrook children living with different families.

John Middlebrook, age 17, born 1833 in Ohio, is living with the Davis Patton family and working as a gardener. He is attending school. Sarah J. Middlebrook, age 15 born in Ohio is living with the Jacob Strayer family, and Mary A. Middlebrook age 12 born in Indiana about 1838, is living with Sarah Rush and family. All of these families are very early settlers of the area.

William likely moved from Ohio to Indiana (Fountain County, Indiana agrees with the Register) between 1835 and 1838 per birthdates and birth places of his daughters. William died in 1845, per the Register, and his wife, Cynthia, must have died sometime before 1850. The children were apparently taken in by Fountain neighbors. Jacob Strayer was one of the first settlers of Fountain coming from Virginia in November 1924 per History of Fountain County, Indiana by H. W. Beck with Pub. H.H. Hillandn. Iddings, Chicago 1881.

Next, in The Register is John Garland Middlebrook.

However, you will need to get the rest of this story from the MFA website . In order to get to the research articles, go to MiddlebrooksFamilyAssociation.org and register with MFA. You will find a wealth of information.

MFA DNA Project Update 2023

By Bob Middlebrooks

The MFA DNA Project started back in 2007 with the goal of using Y-DNA to complement genealogy in furthering the tracing of the Middlebrook(s) lineage as far back as possible. Y-DNA results can confirm or refute the genealogy paper trail. Genetics is the science of heredity which explains how the characteristics of living things are passed on from parent to offspring. Genetics is not genealogy, which describes family relationships. We presently have 28 participants in our project with members in the USA, Canada, England, Australia, and New Zealand.

DNA stands for deoxyribonucleic acid. We use Y-DNA for our project which means it follows the lineage from father to son to son and on. The DNA Chromosomes in males and females differ. The female has XX chromosomes while the male has XY. The X passed from the mother and the Y passed from the father. We find that the Y-DNA is passed from father to son to son allowing us to use the Y-DNA results to see if there are matches between individuals. It is the surname that is carried down through the family tree in conjunction with their Y-DNA that complements the paper trail.

The results of the y-DNA tests are correlated according to matches that relate to the common ancestors. The validity of the matches is based on the number of genetic markers submitted to FTDNA for laboratory processing.

Our Y-DNA project results enhanced by genealogy paper trails allow us to construct five categories. The largest grouping has 19 members. Four members are direct descendants of Isaac 1753 NC (the dates are dates of birth, and the state of birth is indicated where known), three from Thomas 1763 NC, two from John 1755 NC, two from Sims 1762 NC, two from Nathnael 1764 VA, one from John 1754 NC, one from William 1811, one from Joe 1610 Eng, one from Samuel 1784 Eng, one from Edward 1741 Eng, and one from a New Zealand member with an unidentified ancestor.

The second grouping has 3 members descending from Robert 1766NC. A third group has 2 members descending from Joseph 1773NC. A fourth group has 3 members indicated as direct descendants from Micajah 1758. The final group does not match any of the other submissions and shows Garland as the sole ancestor.

Reviews of all the available information indicate that **Thomas 1763 NC, Sims 1762 NC, Isaac 1753 NC and John 1755 NC are likely brothers and have a common ancestor**. It is also probable that **John 1754 VA and Nathaniel 1764 VA have a common ancestor with the NC brothers**. This brings us to a critical point in drawing further conclusions.

We need participants from **Connecticut, Virginia, Maryland, Georgia** and all other locations so that we can fill in the blanks. This need is an MFA priority. Any prospective candidates are requested to contact me for information about how to join.

Bob Middlebrooks, MFA DNA Project Manager, mid293@earthlink.net

Middlebrooks Family Association, Inc.

Neal Middlebrook, Acting President

Dale Kidwell, Acting Vice President

Lanell Middlebrooks, Secretary/Treasurer

Board of Directors

Neal Middlebrook, Acting President 2023-2024

Dale Kidwell, Acting Vice President 2023-2024

Lanelle Middlebrooks, Secretary/Treasurer 2018-2024

Angelia Middlebrooks Gantz 2018-2024

Leonard Middlebrooks 2019-2024

J.A. Middlebrooks 2019-2024

Leslie Shealy 2018-2024

Ancestor Team Leaders

Isaac born 1753: Leonard Middlebrooks

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: Vacant

Sims b. 1762: Neal Middlebrook

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: 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: Vacant

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

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