

Roots & Branches
Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society Morning Group

Roots & Branches

Our

Quarterly Newsletter

Volume: XXXIX ISSN: 0893-4150 The Morning Group November 2014 Number 3
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Hello

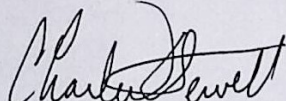
I realize that there are issues missing. I hope to fill in the gap soon with help.

The Morning Group is growing slowly, but growing. Shirley Oliver is in need of a replacement as secretary and Kay Blakeney requests replacement as treasurer. Please let us know if you can serve.

Our November 2014 Newsletter is on the Alexander Family. They left Scotland for Ireland and from there immigrated to the American Colonies for religious reasons. I have included the citations. There are also notes on some of the historical events. These include the divisions of counties in Ireland into parishes. The Church of England clergy were given civil and religious power. This eventually carried over into New England and the Carolinas. Another reason our Founding Fathers wanted to separate Church and State.

Good Luck hunting ancestors.

Thank you.



Charles E. Sewell

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Lord of the Isles

The designation Lord of the Isles is a title of Scottish nobility with historical roots that go back beyond the Kingdom of Scotland. The monarchy emerged about 875 from a series of hybrid Viking/Gaelic rulers of the west coast and islands of Scotland in the Middle Ages, who wielded sea-power with fleets of galleys. They were at times, nominal vassals of the King of Norway, High King of Ireland, or the King of Scotland. The island chiefs remained functionally independent for centuries. Their territory included the Hebrides, (Skye and Ross from 1438), Knoydart, Ardnamurchan, and the Kintyre peninsula. At their height, they were the greatest landowners and most powerful Lords in Britain and its Isles (excluding Ireland) following the Kings of England and Scotland. The office has been extinct since the 15th century when John Macdonald II forfeited his estates and titles to James IV of Scotland in 1493, for treason. The only island still in the possession of direct descendants of the Lords of the Isles is tiny Cara off Kintyre, which is owned by the MacDonalds of Largie.

Descendants of Somerled Dunter, First Lord of the Isles

Generation 1

Somerled Dunter, First Lord of the Isles

Date of birth: unknown, date of death: 1164

From: Wikipedia, "Lord of the Isles"

Somerled, seized the Isles from the King of Man in 1156 and founded a dynasty that in time became the Lords of the Isles. He had Celtic blood on his father's side and Norse on his mother's. His was known as Somerled Macgilbred, Somhairle or in Norse Sumarlidi. Somerled means "summer wanderer", the name given to the Vikings. He took the title King of the Hebrides as well as King of Man. After his death in 1164, three of his sons divided his kingdom between them:

- i. Aonghaus (Angus), ancestor of the McRuari or McRory
- ii. Dughall, ancestor of Clan MacDougall
- iii. Ragnald, whose son Donald Mor McRanald would contest territory with the MacDougalls

Generation 2

Angus Dunter, Lord of the Isles

King Haakon IV of Norway (reigned 1217-1263) confirmed Donald's son Angus Mor (the Elder) Mac Donald (the first Macdonald) as Lord of Islay, and the two participated jointly in the Battle of Largs (1263). When that ended with an effective victory for Scotland, Angus Mor accepted King Alexander III of Scotland as his (nominal) overlord and retained his own territory.

- i. John Dunter

Generation 3

John Dunter, Lord of the Isles

Date of birth: unknown, date of death: 1387, married Margaret Stewart, daughter of Robert II Stewart and Elizabeth Mure. She was born between 1340 and 1349.

- i. Alexander Dunter

Generation 4

Alexander Dunter

Date of birth: between 1370 and 1379, date of death: unknown.

- i. Alexander Dunter

Generation 5

Alexander Dunter

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Date of birth: between 1400-1409, date of death is unknown.

- i. Thomas Alexander

Generation 6

Thomas Alexander

Date of birth: between 1420 – 1429; date of death is unknown.

- i. Andrew Alexander

Generation 7

Andrew Alexander

Date of birth: about 1445, date of death: unknown, married Catherine Grahame.

- i. Alexander Alexander

Generation 8

Alexander Alexander

Date of birth: unknown, date of death: unknown, married Elizabeth Douglas, daughter of Thomas Douglas and Elizabeth Boyd.

- i. Andrew Alexander

Generation 9

Andrew Alexander

Date of birth: about 1485, date of death: unknown.

From:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sassytazzy/family/surnames/Alexander/docs/alexam1952darmagingram.html> Andrew Alexander was in Menstrie, Scotland in 1544.

- i. William Alexander of Menstrie

Generation 10

William Alexander of Menstrie

Date of birth: 1505, date of death: about 1539, married Elizabeth Forbes.

- i. William Alexander of Menstrie
- ii. James Alexander

Generation 11

William Alexander of Menstrie

Date of birth: 1527, date of death: unknown.

- i. Alexander Alexander

Generation 12

Alexander Alexander

Date of birth: 1547, date of death: unknown, married Marion Contee in 1567.

- i. Sir William Alexander

Generation 13

Sir William Alexander

Date of birth: 1567, date of death: 1640, married Janet Erskine who died in 1660.

From:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sassytazzy/family/surnames/Alexander/docs/alexam1952darmagingram.html>

Poet and statesman, he wrote Psalms for King James II Bible and large amounts of poetry that tended toward the dull. His tragedies preceded Shakespeare. He lived in London for twenty years and was an associate of His. Johnson, Deyden, Spenser, etc. Friend and confidant of King James, he was on the privy council. King James granted him large tracts of land in America: Nova Scotia, New England, Martha's Vinyard, etc. – which he tried to colonize by granting Lordships thereto – including one to Gilbert

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Ramsey of Balmaine, and one to the Duke of York (hence New York). He also contracted Martha's Vineyard to Governor Thomas Mayhew, made his son, William Alexander Junior, Governor of New Scotland (Nova Scotia 1620 – 1630's); but, he did not collect money for same and died of modest means.

He married Lady Janet Erskine, daughter of Sir William Erskine of Galognie. They had eleven children.

From: http://www.electronicScotland.com/history/canada/william_alexander.htm
William Alexander's first years were spent in the parish of Logie, but following his father's death he was brought up in Stirling by a granduncle who was a merchant there. He was educated at the universities of Glasgow and Leiden, and became a tutor to the Earl of Argyle. He joined the court of James VI in Edinburgh as tutor to Prince Henry, and was one of the poets whom the King surrounded himself with, known as the Castalian Band. Following the Union of Crowns in 1603, James moved his court to London. Alexander was one of the favored courtiers who accompanied him. His subsequent involvement in English politics made Alexander unpopular in Scotland. He was knighted in 1609, granted the plantation in Nova Scotia in 1621 and made a Viscount of Canada. He was appointed Secretary of State for Scotland in 1626 and created Earl of Stirling in 1633.

He met with severe financial difficulties during his last years and he died in poverty. His literary work is now regarded as an historical curiosity; it includes sonnets and songs (collected in "Aurora"); four tragedies written for Prince Henry; and "Doomsday" a poem of over, 10,000 lines.

At Winsor Castle on September 10, 1621, King James signed a grant in favor of Sir William Alexander covering all of the lands "between our Colonies of New England and Newfoundland, to be known as New Scotland" (Nova Scotia in Latin), and area greater than Great Britain and France combined. On October 18, 1624 the King announced his intention of creating a new order of baronets to Scottish "knights and gentlemen of chiefe respect to their birth, place or fortunes". James I died on March 27, 1625, but his heir, Charles I, lost no time in implementing his father's plan. By the end of 1625, the first 22 Baronets of Nova Scotia were created and, as inducements to settlement of his new colony of Nova Scotia, Sir William offered tracts of land totaling 11,520 acres "to all such principal knights and esquires as will be pleased to be undertakers of such plantations and who will promise to set forth 6 men, artificers or laborers, sufficiently armed, appareled and victualled for 2 years". Baronets could receive their patents in Edinburgh rather than London, and an area of Edinburgh Castle was declared Nova Scotian territory for this purpose. In return, they had to pay Sir William 1,000 merks for his "past charges in discoverie of the said country".

Sir William Alexander and Jane Erskine had the following children:

- i. John Alexander, who died in 1666 in Virginia. He married Agnes Graham.
- ii. William Alexander Junior, who died in 1638. He married Margaret Douglas who died in 1660.
- iii. Anthony Alexander, who died in 1637. He married ? Wardlaw.
- iv. Henry Alexander, who died in 1679. He married Mary Vanlore.
- v. Robert Alexander
- vi. Charles Alexander
- vii. Mary Alexander, who married ? Murray.
- viii. Jean Alexander, who married (1) Lord Hugh Montgomery and (2) Robert Monroe.

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Joseph and Abigail McKnitt Alexander had the following children:

- i. Sophie (Sophia) Alexander
- ii. Jane Alexander
- iii. Abigail Alexander
- iv. Francis Alexander
- v. Abraham Alexander
- vi. James Robert Alexander was born in 1690 and died in 1779 in Cecil County, Maryland. He married (1) Margaret McKnitt about 1713 and (2) Abigail McKnitt.
- vii. Robert Alexander died in 1704. He married Frances Ashton.

Generation 16

James Robert Alexander was born in 1695 and died in 1779 in Cecil County, Maryland. He married (1) Abigail McKnitt and (2) Abigail McKnitt.

From:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sassytazzy/family/surnames/alexander/docs/alexfam1952darmagingram.html>

James Robert Alexander married first his cousin Margaret McKnitt and second her sister Abigail. James Alexander, the son of Joseph Alexander, was born in 1695 in Cecil County, Maryland and died there. This is verified by his will which was filed at Elkton, Maryland on March 9, 1726. He married Margaret McKnitt in 1714. She was born December 26, 1693 and died between 1736 and 1745. James Alexander inherited land from his father and cultivated it selling his produce in Philadelphia to the Pennsylvania Colony. He was also a tanner by trade. To each of his sons he gave an opportunity to learn a lucrative trade, as well as learning the cultivation of the land.

James Alexander purchased land, as an investment, from agents in the North Carolina Colony. He was chosen an elder in the New Munster Presbyterian Church and tradition records that he was a prominent layman. Page II of "The Alexanders of Mecklenburg County" lists the following children for James and Margaret McKnitt Alexander:

- i. Theophilus Alexander born in 1714 and died in 1768 in Maryland
- ii. Edith Alexander born January 10, 1717/18.
- iii. Kezia Alexander
- iv. Amos Alexander
- v. Ezekial Alexander
- vi. Jemima Alexander
- vii. Hezekiah Alexander
- viii. Margaret Alexander
- ix. Jemima Alexander
- x. John McKnitt Alexander

and the children of James and Abigail McKnitt Alexander as:

- xi. Abigal Alexander
- xii. Elizabeth Alexander
- xiii. Margeret Alexander
- xiv. Josiah Alexander
- xv. Ezekiel Alexander.

Generation 17

Theophilus Alexander was born in 1714 and died in 1768 in Maryland. He married Catherine Wallace (Wallis), daughter of Matthew and Sarah Alexander Wallace. She was born in Maryland and died in 1778 in North Carolina.

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From:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sassytazzy/family/surnames/alexander/docs/alexjoseph1.html> Theophilus Alexander, the son of James Alexander and Margaret McKnitt, was born March 13, 1715 and died in 1768 in New Munster. He married Catherine Wallis, the daughter of Reverend Wallis of New Munster. She is buried at Sugar Creek Graveyard in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. She died in 1775. The children of Theophilus Alexander and Catherine Wallis will be found on Page II of "The Alexanders of Mecklenburg County". Catherine Wallis Alexander, following the death of her husband, migrated with her children to the North Carolina Colony with her brothers in 1754. Theophilus Alexander and Catherine Wallace had the following children:

i. Joseph Alexander born 1735 in Maryland and died on July 30, 1809 in South Carolina.

Generation 18

Joseph Alexander was born in 1735 in Maryland and died on July 30, 1809 in South Carolina. He married Ester Davis.

From: Rebecca Sewell Homan's website,

<http://rebecca.homan.googlepages.com/sharpfamilyofchamberscounty%2Calabama>

Joseph Alexander graduated Princeton College in 1760; was licensed by the New Castle Presbytery in 1767; the same year was installed pastor of the Sugar Creek Presbyterian Church, in North Carolina, where he established a classical school which soon established a high reputation. In a few years, he became pastor of Union Church, South Carolina, where he remained until 1773, when he was installed pastor of Bullock's Creek Church, and continued to do so until 1801. Doctor Alexander was active in the cause of education in South Carolina as he had been in North Carolina. He was endowed with fine talents, and was an uncommonly animated and popular preacher. He was an ardent patriot throughout the Revolution. He died July 30, 1809. On the Eno, a branch of the Neuse, a church was erected in 1736 on ground, the deed to which bears the date 9th of George II. Out of Hanover Presbytery, which was constituted in 1758, and embraced North and South Carolina, was erected, in 1770, Orange Presbytery. Its seven original ministers were Hugh McAden, Henry Patillo, James Creswell, David Caldwell, Joseph Alexander Hezekiah Balch and Hezekiah James Balch. Mr. Patillo was a member of the Provincial Congress of North Carolina in 1775; was its Chaplain, and also the honored Chairman of the body, in committee of the whole, in considering arrangements for confederation. David Caldwell was a member of the State Convention of 1776, which drew up the "Bill of Rights", and framed the constitution, and he was the reputed author of the Thirty-second Article, which declares, "That no person who shall deny the being of God, or the truth of the Protestant religion, or the divine authority of either the Old or New Testament, or who shall hold religious principles incompatible with the freedom and safety of the State, shall be capable of holding any office, or place of trust or profit, in the civil department within the State."

From: York County, South Carolina Will Abstracts 1770-1812

Alexander, Joseph minister of York District, July 10, 1809

To: Baldwin and Joseph Byers, the succeeding issue of my daughter, Martha.

Daughter: Sarah Burnett.

Son: Samuel Davis Alexander, lands on which he now lives according to a survey made by William Gaston, Esq.

Daughter: Edith Walkers ?

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Daughter: Esther, her youngest child, Joseph Alexander King.

Son: George Baldwin Alexander.

Daughters: Judith Bankhead, Ann Garrison, Margaret McJunkin.

Executors: Joseph McJunkins, Col. Joseph Hughes

Witnesses: John Black, Jacob Black, John B. Black

Proven: 10 August 1809, Book A-219; Case 52 file #2266

From:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sassytazzy/family/surnames/alexander/docs/alexfam1952darmagingram.html>

From: chmuseums.org/_pdf/Early_physicians.pdf

Reverend Doctor Joseph Alexander (1735 – 1809). A native of Pennsylvania, Joseph Alexander graduated from Princeton College in 1760 and shortly after moved to North Carolina. In 1774, he settled in Bullock's Creek, South Carolina. Dr. Alexander was an eminent educator and established a classical school at Bullock's Creek in 1787. He organized churches in both North and South Carolina and preached until 1801. He then attended the College of South Carolina and received a Doctor of Divinity degree in 1807. According to an account of Major Joseph McJunkin's experiences in the Revolutionary War, the house of "Rev. Joseph Alexander ... was a real Lazaretto [a hospital for contagious disease] for the sick and wounded of our army." Major McJunkin contracted smallpox while recovering from a wound at Alexander's home. According to Dr. Maurice A. Moore's writings in the 1860's, Rev. Alexander performed smallpox inoculations prior to 1796 at his home during an epidemic.

Joseph Alexander and Ester Davis had the following children:

- i. Margaret Cannon Alexander was born about 1873.
- ii. Martha Alexander married a Byers.
- iii. Samuel Davis Alexander.
- iv. Esther Alexander married a King.
- v. George Baldwin Alexander.
- vi. Judith Alexander.
- vii. Ann Alexander.

Generation 19

Margaret Cannon Alexander was born about 1783 and died on September 25, 1843 in Troop County, Georgia. She married John Thomas McJunkin, son of Joseph Caldwell McJunkin and Anne Jane Thomas. He was born on January 29, 1785 in Union District, South Carolina. They had the following children:

- i. Theophelis McJunkin was born on January 21, 1814 in Union District, South Carolina. He died on May 10, 1877 in Chambers County, Alabama. He married Ardella Ann Heath on February 4, 1857 in Chambers County, Alabama, daughter of William and Mary Irons Taylor Heath. She was born on December 18, 1832 in Newton County, Georgia. She died on April 9, 1896. Theophelis McJunkin was named after his mother's grandfather.
From: Chambers County (Alabama) Census on 1850
page 168:
H860 William Carlisle 51 M Farmer 3 slaves GA
Theophilus McJunkins *31 M Cabinet maker SC
Page 186
H962 Mary J. Heath 60 F 23 slaves R\$1,600 SC 1 runaway
John 32 M GA

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Diler 19 F GA (Ardella Ann)

Josephine 9 F AL

Joseph Stately 28 M Farmer SC

From: 1860 census household H634 and note of 1851 marriage:
Chambers County, ML Vol. \$ #341 issued to Theophilus McJunkin and
Ardilla A. Heath, February 4, 1857 by A. B. Camp (Min.) Thomas H. Ellis
second bondsman, Mary I. Heath gave consent to her daughter's
marriage.

H996 Daniel Sharp 36 M Farmer GA

Charlotte 33 F

William H. 15 M TN

George M. 14 M

Mary A. 13 F

Andrew J. 12 M

Daniel B. 10 M

James M. 8 M

Wesley S. 5 M AL

Rachel S. 4 F

Hiram 3 M

John B. 2 M

David 4/12 M

From: Chambers County, ML Vol. 5 #434-1 issued to Andrew J. Sharp
and Nancy C Blakeley, December 10, 1857 by E. F. Vaughn (JP) at
residence James Blakeley who gave consent to daughter's marriage.
Daniel Sharp gave consent to son's marriage.

- ii. Ann Jane McJunkin was born in 1812 and died December 10, 1850 in Clay
County, Alabama. She married John Wright in Troop County, Georgia.
He died in Clay County, Alabama.
- iii. Thomas Madison McJunkin was born on February 16, 1822 in South
Carolina. He died on March 17, 1877 in Sikesville, Clay County, Alabama.
He married Parthenia Clementine Pool in Troop County, Georgia,
daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Pool.
- iv. John D. McJunkin was born in 1825 in South Carolina.
- v. Davis Lewis McJunkin as born after 1825.

Martha Alexander married unknown Byers and had the following children:

- i. Baldwin Byers
- ii. Joseph Byers

Esther Alexander married unknown King and had the following child:

- i. Joseph Alexander King.

I hope that this information will be of use to you in your research. My sister, Rebecca Sewell Homan, has retired from the Georgia Education System and her website may not have been updated. The other citations should still be available. I believe the David Caldwell mentioned above may be an ancestor of several members of our group. The information should help anyone attempting to enter the DAR and SAR under Major Joseph McJunkin or Joseph Alexander born 1735. I believe Joseph Alexander is a Patriot for his providing aid and support for the war effort. According to his biography, Major McJunkin was in British custody when he contacted small pox and they released him.

Good Luck Hunting Ancestors.

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2015 Membership/Renewal Application

\$8.00 Single Membership: ()

New Member: ()

\$14.00 Two Member Household: ()

Renewal: ()

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ - _____ Email: _____

Surnames you are researching (up to eight): _____

Make checks payable to: **"Morning Group, T.G.S."** and mail to P.O. Box 20565, Tuscaloosa, AL 35402

Please invite friends and family. Growth is essential.
2011 dues are due before 1 February 2011

THE MORNING GROUP
TUSCALOOSA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Mr. Charles E. Sewell – President
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