

Pocahontas and the Campbell Clan from Scotland and the Amazing Familial Relationship with the Scheibner Family from Gem¹, Alberta

(or "Don't Let the Truth Get in the Way of a Good Story"²)

By William J Anhorn K.C. ICD.D

Chapter One: "The Family Tree"

In a recent article entitled, ["The Importance of Grandparents- From a Geological Perspective"](#), I identified and explained an important aspect of genealogical research and a new frontier called "Forensic Genealogy" and how this has opened up tremendous opportunities for amateur genealogists, who wish to explore their ancestry in greater detail. As pointed out in the article, it is not unusual in some cases for families to be able to go back 20 or more generations in developing their family tree.

As I continue my research and storytelling, there has and continues to be a constant theme and that is that *"history and genealogy often intersect with AMAZING results!"*

¹ **Gem** is a hamlet in southern Alberta, Canada within the County of Newell. It is located approximately 29 kilometers (18 mi) north of Highway 1 and 47 kilometers (29 mi) northwest of Brooks and 163 kilometers from Medicine Hat.

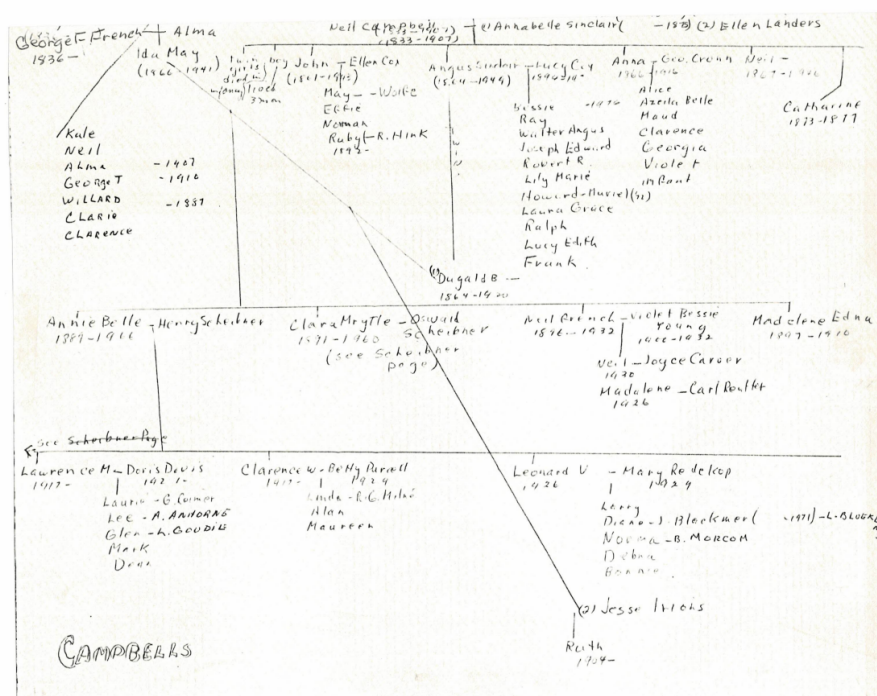
² The origins of the quote "Don't let the truth get in the way of a good story" are unclear as it has been attributed to various people over the years including Mark Twain and Oscar Wilde. Some suggest that it is an old Irish proverb. Regardless, the quote has become a popular adage among writers and storytellers suggesting that sometimes it's better to prioritize the entertainment value of a story over strict adherence to the facts. While every effort has been made to document this story from both a factual basis and genealogical perspective, absent clear original source material, some of the observations and conclusions herein may be subject to conjecture and speculation.

As a local historian and amateur genealogist, this combination of disciplines has resulted in a treasure trove of information and an endless supply of valuable material, which allows me to continue to do research, write and to share my work with others.

More recently, this became quite evident when my brother-in-law (Ronald Lee Scheibner) casually invited me to explore his own family pedigree and to provide him with information regarding his “maternal” side of the family. He stated that he was vaguely aware of a family connection to the Campbell Clan of Scotland. He and my sister, Arlene were planning a trip to Ireland and Scotland and he thought it would be interesting to uncover this aspect of his family history and that perhaps in doing so, it might provide an opportunity to visit the home of some of these Scottish ancestors. He also mentioned that some of his early ancestors had settled in Tennessee and Kentucky and then had moved out west to the American frontier in the late 1700's, settling in Lincoln County in Washington, USA. I could hardly contain my enthusiasm when he mentioned that a story passed down through several generations was that one of the Scheibner ancestors had been a member of the infamous Jesse James gang.

What I discovered was more than I had ever imagined and I feel compelled to tell this story!

As is often the case, family history and the family tree sometimes only consists of a few pages of handwritten notes on a page with cryptic names and arrows going in all kinds of directions



without any apparent semblance of order.

Time becomes a bitter enemy, as often these records are not kept up to date and with the passage of time, important details are lost forever.

The plight of the amateur genealogist and the “race” against time is best described by this observation from 1868. And the difficulty of this task is as much of a challenge today as it was 150 years ago.

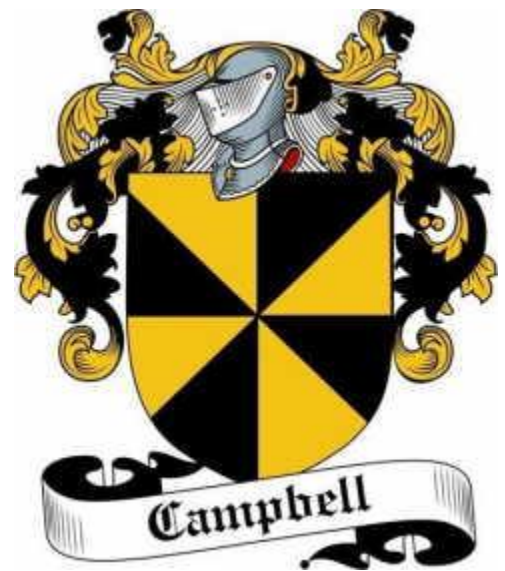
“Every day the task of the genealogical inquirer becomes more difficult; that task which is but faintly remembered by one generation is totally forgotten by another; and tradition, which sometimes supplies the place of testimony, is thus entirely lost. Few persons are so insensible to the ties of kindred as not to feel a legitimate curiosity in the history and connections of the individuals of their own family, a feeling which remoteness of time cannot impair and which proximity of relationships only serve to strengthen. If the greatest nations have been ambitious of deducing their history of the earliest times, surely individuals may be pardoned who seek to trace their origins in the earliest recorded annals of their country. Without attaching undue value to the advantage of birth, the love of our race is laid so deep in the foundation of human nature that such adventitious circumstances will always influence our social position. It should teach us humility when we reflect how small a space we ourselves occupy in the eye of posterity and it may inspire us with the spirit of emulation to maintain the good name we have inherited from those who have gone before us.”³

So I continue to persevere and take up the challenge of the “*genealogical inquirer*” and encourage others to do the same.

³ Botfield, Beriah-Stemmata Botevilliana, 1858, Chapter I

Chapter Two: The Campbell/Scheibner Clan

Using the research database of Ancestry.com and the basic information available on the cryptic Scheibner family tree, it was relatively easy to identify their relationship to the Campbell clan and to provide the sought after information. The Campbell clan is one of the most recognized Clans from Scotland, so finding a modern linkage was straight forward. Tracing the ancestry back multiple generations proved much more challenging, due to the prevalence of this surname in the ancestry database.



Henry John Scheibner, my brother-in-law's great grandfather married Anna Belle **Campbell** and her lineage dating back several generations and their respective places of origin or birthplaces in Scotland were quickly identified.

Some of these birthplaces contained some rather idyllic names and each identified the general location within the county of Scotland, from which this branch of the Campbell Clan originated. The planned trip to Scotland was enhanced by this information, as he and my sister reveled in this new found ancestral data. The most recent and relevant antecedents from Scotland(Campbell) who have a direct relationship to the Scheibner family are as follows:

Great Grandfather/Grandmother

Henry John Scheibner married
Annabelle Campbell

Kingston, Roane County, Tennessee, United States of America

Great Great Grandfather

Donald Cambell (1775-1835)

Tyree, Argyll, Scotland

4th Great Grandfather

John Campbell (1803–1881)

Cove, South Knapdale, Argyllshire, Scotland

5th Great Grandfather

Patrick Peter Campbell (1775-1848)

Auchindrain, Argyll⁴, Scotland

6th Great Grandfather

Peter Campbell (1744-1800)

Auchindrain, Argyll, Scotland

7th Great Grandfather

Robert Dallas Campbell (1690-1754)

Argyll, Argyllshire, Strathclyde, Scotland

8th Great Grandfather

Alexander Forbes Campbell (1660-1758)

Invernary, Argyllshire, Scotland

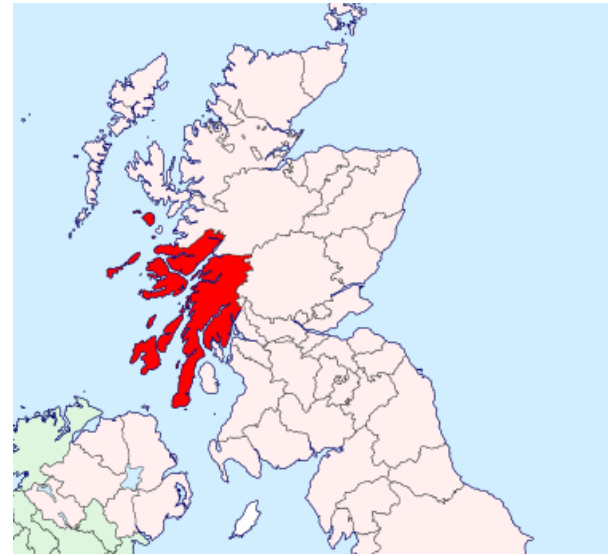
Died: Augusta or Nansemond, Virginia Colony. USA

9th Great Grandfather

Sir Andrew Patrick Campbell of Moyris and Magherahubber (1613-1661)

Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Strathclyde, Scotland

Died: Augusta County, Virginia Colony, USA



⁴ **Argyll** (/ɑːrˈgaɪl/; archaically **Argyle**, *Earra-Ghàidheal* in modern Gaelic, pronounced [ˈaːrʲəɣ̊ɛː.əɫ̪ʲ]), sometimes called **Argyllshire**, is a historic county and registration county of western Scotland.

10th Great Grandfather

Sir Duncan Campbell, 2nd Baronet and 6th Lord of Auchinbreck
(1597-1645) Knight of the Realm⁵

The discovery of the ancestors of the Scheibner family from Gem, Alberta and the close relationship with Lords, Ladies and Knights of the Realm from Scotland is quite an amazing story.

But there is more to the story.....which is even more remarkable!

⁵ **Sir Duncan Campbell** (1597–1645), 2nd Baronet and 6th Lord of Auchinbreck, was a Scottish landowner and soldier. He was commander of the Marquess of Argyll, Archibald Campbell's troops, (Covenanters) in Ireland.

He was a son of Sir Dugald Campbell, 1st Baronet of Auchinbreck and Mary Erskine. He was recalled by Archibald Campbell to Scotland and placed in command of the Covenanter troops at the Battle of Inverlochy (1645).

Duncan Campbell was born circa 1597 in Colquhoun, Dunbartonshire, Scotland. He was the second son of Dugald Campbell of Auchinbreck and Mary Erskine, and succeeded him in 1641. He bought Carnasserie Castle from the Marquess of Argyll, Archibald Campbell in 1643.

He served in Parliament for Argyllshire from 1628 to 1643.

During the Irish Wars of the early 1640s, Campbell led his Covenanter troops from Argyll in the massacre of many local Catholic McDonalds on Rathlin Island. On 2 February 1645 now back in Scotland, he led Argyll's troops at Inverlochy where he was taken prisoner and killed, probably in retaliation for his massacre of the Catholic McDonalds a few years earlier.

Chapter Three: “She Who Sweeps the Dew from the Flowers”

I made reference earlier to my article, “The Importance of Grandparents- From a Geological Perspective” and identified the important connection between the Medlicott family (Joan Elaine Medlicott) from Medicine Hat and the **DAVIS** family from England, which was an aristocratic family with many connections with Knights, Lords and Ladies and even...Royalty.

In examining the Scheibner family pedigree, it did not go unnoticed that my brother-in-law's mother was Doris **Davis** and my natural curiosity sent me down another “genealogical” rabbit hole, which resulted in another astonishing story. This story again must be recorded and told for posterity. It demonstrates with absolute certainty my lifelong mantra that “genealogy and history often intersect with amazing results”

Doris Davis married Marion Lawrence Scheibner and they were well-known in the Southern Alberta community of Gem, where they farmed for over 50 years. His father was Henry John Scheibner. It may be of interest to some that the most recent addition to the Scheibner family is also named “Henry”.⁶

The antecedents of Doris Davis proved to be quite interesting as the early Davis family members immigrated from England, firstly to the United States and later to Canada.

The maternal antecedents of my brother-in- law (Ronald Lee Scheibner) are as follows:

Great Grandfather

George Washington Davis

B:10 March 1859 Polk City, Polk, Iowa, United States

⁶ My nephew Brent (and his wife Maggie) Scheibner named their son, Henry Theodore to honor his great grandfather and my Dad and his great grandfather, Theodore John Anhorn from Medicine Hat.

D: 28 May 1943 Polk City, Polk, Iowa, United States

Great Great Grandfather

Abraham Thornberry Davis

B:10 April 1827 Licking, Licking, Ohio, United States

D: 31 August 1898 Sodaville, Linn, Oregon, United States

4th Great Grandfather

Aquilla Davis⁷

B:November 6 1784 Baltimore, Baltimore County Maryland, USA

D:March 16 1842 Delaware, Ripley, Indiana, USA

5th Great Grandfather

Robert Nathaniel Davis

B: June 7 1738 Reisterstown, Baltimore, Maryland, USA

D:1796 Brooke, Stafford, Virginia, USA

⁷ In 1825, Acquilla Davis came to Baltimore township with his family. He was raised near Harpers Ferry, W. Va., and removed from there to Licking County, Ohio. He was accompanied by his wife and eight children, and two were born after his arrival here. Abraham was born in the fall of 1825, and Samuel was born four years later, Rachel, daughter of William Dilts, was the first white child born in the township, and Abraham Davis was the second. Both were born in 1825. Mr. Davis was a man of prominence, but was too unselfish to accumulate much property. He felt an interest in the settlement of the township, amounting almost to anxiety, and made practice of piloting new settlers to their lands, and showing choice locations to prospective settlers. He died in the year 1842, after having cleared and improved a farm. His wife survived him for eight years. The land upon which he settled is now owned and occupied by Sanford Bowers. His son, Samuel Davis*, was born on this farm, and grew to manhood in the township. He has held various offices of honor and trust, and is now serving as County Commissioner from the district in which he resides. *(See portrait of Samuel Davis in OldTyme Photos - Official Group-Delaware County.) From:History Of Delaware County T. B. Helm 1881) Source: Bowers Family History

The following original source material and is offered in support of the genealogical account relating to the 5th Great Grandfather-Robert Nathaniel Davis:

Maryland, Births and Christenings Index, 1662-1911 about Robert Davis

Records of St. Paul's Parish

Name: Robert Davis

Gender: Male

Birth Date: 7 Jun 1738

Birth Place: Saint Paul Protestant Episcopal Church, Baltimore, Baltimore, Maryland

Father's Name: Nathaniel Davis

Mother's name: Mary

FHL Film Number: 13696

Birth: Saint Paul Protestant Episcopal Church, Baltimore, Maryland Records of St. Paul's Parish

And the following dissertation from a reliable ancestry source:

*"Between 1729 and about 1742 **Nathaniel's** wife **Mary** gave birth to 7 children --Zeporah, Susannah, Richard, Margaret, **Robert**, Thomas, and Nathaniel Jr. According to the rule in those years, the first 5 children were baptized in St. Paul's Parish Church, which required a 30 mile round trip from Reisterstown to Baltimore Town and back.*

*About 1740, newborn son **Thomas** was baptized in the newly created St. Thomas Parish, which was only a 6 mile round trip. In 1742, Nathaniel Jr. was born, probably on their farm at Reisterstown, and so far no baptismal record for him has been found.*

*Beginning in 1770, **Nathaniel Davis Sr.** began selling pieces of his farmland to his sons. **Nathaniel Davis Sr's** first wife **Mary** died sometime after the birth of Nathaniel Jr. and **Nathaniel Sr.** married **Hannah Siddons** sometime between then and 1783, when he sold 62 acres of his land to **Nathaniel Jr.** with the provision that the latter take care of his father until his death. **Nathaniel Sr.** probably died in 1785."*

6th Great Grandfather

Nathaniel Davis

B. 1696 Baltimore Maryland United States

D. 1771 Reisterstown Baltimore Maryland United States

From another reliable source comes the following information:

"Nathaniel Davis Sr. was born about 1700. He first appeared in Baltimore Co. records in the early 1700s. It is not known whether he immigrated or merely removed from somewhere else in the Colonies. He married his first wife Mary (last name unknown), who was probably born before 1715, probably in Baltimore Co., MD. Nathaniel first acquired farmland in 1727 just east of Reisterstown in Baltimore Co. and then began a much larger series of land acquisitions adjacent to the west side of Reisterstown that by 1760 reached a total of about 270 acres. Between 1729 and about 1742 Nathaniel's wife Mary gave birth to 7 children --Zeporah, Susannah, Richard, Margaret, Robert, Thomas, and Nathaniel Jr. According to the rule in those years, the first 5 children were baptized in St. Paul's Parish Church, which required a 30 mile round trip from Reisterstown to Baltimore Town and back. About 1740, newborn son Thomas was baptized in the newly created St. Thomas Parish, which was only a 6 mile round trip. In 1742, Nathaniel Jr. was born, probably on their farm at Reisterstown, and so far no baptismal record for him has been found. About 1766, Nathaniel Davis Jr. married Catherine (last name not proven). Beginning in 1770, Nathaniel Davis Sr. began selling pieces of his farmland to his sons. Nathaniel Davis Sr.'s first wife Mary died sometime after the birth of Nathaniel Jr. and Nathaniel Sr. married Hannah (last name unknown) sometime between then and 1783, when he sold 62 acres of his land to Nathaniel Jr. with the provision that the latter take care of his father until his death. Nathaniel Sr. probably died in 1785. About 1785, the Nathaniel Davis Jr. family moved from Reisterstown, MD to Holidays Cove, which then was in Ohio Co. of the state of Virginia. Nathaniel Jr. first appears on the Ohio, VA titles and taxable list in 1786. The 198 acre farmland he owned was located in the Northern part of Ohio County which became Brooke County, VA when it was created in 1796, and which became located at the southern edge of Hancock Co., VA when it was created in 1848. All of the early documents refer to the location of this farmland as in Holidays Cove and on Harmons Creek, as at that time Holidays Cove was the nearest existing community. Its actual location is in what is now Weirton Heights

-- one of the six communities, including Holidays Cove, that were incorporated in 1947 into the city of Weirton, Hancock Co., WV. Nathaniel's farmland was originally a part of land granted in 1788 by the Commonwealth of Virginia to Richard Boyce, and through him to John Goodman Young. Nathaniel Davis Jr. purchased the 198 acres from Young for \$600. The survey of that tract was filed for Nathaniel in the Ohio County Court in 1792. Catherine gave birth in Baltimore Co. to 10 children -- Rachael (married Richard Manning), Benjamin, Nancy (married Mathew Richardson), Carrie (married Thomas Swearingen), Ruth (married James Morrow), Joshua (married Isabel Logan), Jemima (married William Crogan), Susanna (married Jesse Wells), Nathaniel 3rd (married Sarah Graham), and Aquilla (married Lucretia Hatfield). Probably all of these children moved west with their parents, except Rachael who was already married. Catherine gave birth to 2 more children -- Catherine 2nd, born in 1787 probably after the family moved from Reisterstown to Holidays Cove and married Samuel Hindman, and Honor, born in 1790 in Holidays Cove and married Thomas Agnew Graham. The Davis farm in Weirton Heights is about 4/5ths of a mile from north to south and about 1/2 mile east to west. It is now paved over with shopping centers, homes, banks and churches. It is bisected by two main roads -- Pennsylvania Ave. and Cove Road, which are joined in the middle of the tract by Penco Road. Adjacent to the southwest corner of the tract is the historic Three Springs Cemetery. Nathaniel Davis Jr. and his wife Catherine probably both died on their farm -- Nathaniel apparently died about 1796 and Catherine in 1818. So far the graves of Nathaniel Davis Jr. and his wife Catherine have not been located. The graves of their daughter Honor and her husband Thomas A. Graham Jr. are in Three Springs Cemetery. Both Benjamin and Joshua Davis are mentioned in several histories written about life in the "panhandle" in the 1700s. They appear to have had several experiences helping other settlers protect themselves from Indian raids. [See for example, Allan W. Eckert, "That Dark and Bloody River", Mary Shakley Ferguson, "The History of Holidays Cove".

7th Great Grandfather

Nathaniel Robert Davis (1650-1710)
Devon, Devon, England, United Kingdom

The 7th great grandfather of Ronald Lee Scheibner is Nathaniel Robert Davis⁸. He married Mary Elizabeth Hughes (1654-1740), who was born in Jamestown, Virginia. She would be by extension, the 7th Great Grandmother of Ronald Lee Scheibner and interestingly, she is part Native American/Indian.

7th Great Grandmother

Mary Elizabeth Hughes (1654-1740)

Mary Elizabeth Hughes, by all prominent historical accounts, was the daughter of Captain John Rice Hughes (1615-1718), and **Princess Nicketti Mangopeesomon “She Sweeps the Dew from the Flowers” (1625-.)**

She was the daughter of Chief Eagle Plume [Opechancanough](1554-) and Cleopatra Plume [1570], both of whom were members of the Powhatan Confederacy.

8th Great Grandfather

Captain John Rice Hughes (1615-1718)
Beaumaris, Anglesey, Wales

8th Great Grandmother

Princess Nicketti⁹ Mangopeesomon “She Sweeps the Dew from the Flowers” (1625-.)

9th Great Grandfather

Chief Eagle Plume [Opechancanough](1554-

⁸ With the advent of Forensic DNA and the accessibility of DNA matching for genealogical research. Many genealogists will enhance the credibility of their research and family pedigrees by referencing the symbol shown or by a similar symbol or statement “DNA VERIFIED”. Several of my research data points contain this reference. See a portion of a Davis family tree (above)

⁹ Nicketti is clearly not a Native North American name and there are several theories as to how this name came about. One credible explanation is that the word “Niketti” phonetically in the Powhatan language means “pretty baby” which was a nickname given to the infant child shortly after she was born.

9th Great Grandmother
Cleopatra Plume [1570] (born Scent Flower)

From a historical and genealogical perspective, it should be noted that historians and genealogists all agree that Cleopatra Plume was the younger sister of the legendary Indian Princess Pocahontus (Matoaka or Matoax)¹⁰ and daughter of the then Chief of the Powhatan Confederacy.

A brief history lesson is in order.

Before the arrival of the first English colony in Virginia at Jamestown, the Powhatan Indian tribe had occupied the land for over 12,000 years. Chief Powhatan inherited six tribes that became known as the Powhatan Chiefdom or Confederacy. The Powhatan Indian lands encompassed all of the tidewater Virginia area, from the south side of the James River north to the Potomac River, and parts of the Eastern Shore, an area they called Tsenacommacah. Its span was approximately 100 miles by 100 miles. Before the arrival of the English, and their foreign diseases, the population is estimated to have been at least 25,000.

Captain John Hughes was born in Beaumaris, Anglesey, Wales and as a young man took to the open seas as a sailor and adventurer. He became a Captain and sailed a supply ship from Wales in the early 1600's to the Jamestown settlement.

After he sold the ship, he fell in love and married Princess (Nicketti) **Mangopeesomon** and they moved into the mountains not far from Jamestown but in an area that had not been inhabited or visited by the English. Here he

¹⁰ Her full name was POCAHONTAS/Matoaka(or Matoax) Amonute Powhatan (1590-1617). Most historians theorize that she was being groomed to be the successor to the Powhatan Confederacy to succeed her father based upon a unique succession plan which was based on royal bloodlines and which did not necessarily follow a paternal or male lineage. See, Dr. J Frederick Fausz dissertation on the subject, "The Powhatan Uprising of 1622".

built a cabin which served as a home and trading center and he and his wife and children lived in harmony among the Indigenous population.¹¹

Having married the Powhatan Princess Nicketti “Mangopeesomo”, he had a friendly relationship with the Powhatans. Her name when translated to English means “She Sweeps the Dew from the Flowers”. Even during the big uprising of 1640 when over half of the English settlers were killed, Captain Hughes & Princess Nicketti lived without any apparent trouble, having effectively assimilated into the culture of the tribe.

In summary, Princess Nicketti or ‘She-Sweeps-the-Dew-from-the-Flowers’ was the daughter of Cleopatra Plume, who was a younger sister of Pocahontas. Therefore she is a niece to Pocahontas, this legendary North American Indian Princess.

By genealogical extension, Cleopatra Plume would be the 8th Great Grandmother of Ronald Lee Scheibner and **Pocahontas would be his 8th GREAT AUNT!**

The following historical work gives credence to this hypothesis:

¹¹ In the mid-1600s, Captain John Rice Hughes, a Welshman known in the area simply as “Trader” Hughes, established a trading post at Jamestown, Virginia, in order to trade primarily with the Powhatan Indians in the area.

wyffe of Thomas Wrothe, Gent. A Virginia Lady borne, was buried in the Chancell." The date, 1616, corresponds with the historical year 1617. It appears that there was formerly a family of the name of Wrothe resident near Gravesend. This name might therefore easily be confounded with that of Rolfe, the sound being similar. Nor is the mistake of Thomas for John at all improbable. Gravesend Church, in which Pocahontas was buried, was destroyed by fire in 1727, and no monument to her memory remains, if any ever existed.*

According to Strachey, a good authority, the Indians had several different names given them at different times, and Powhatan called his favorite daughter when quite young, Pocahontas, that is, "Little Wanton," but at a riper age she was called Amunate. According to Stith,† her real name was Matoax, which the people of her nation concealed from the English, and changed it to Pocahontas from a superstitious fear, lest, knowing her true name, they should do her some injury. Others suppose Matoax to have been her individual name, Pocahontas her title. After her conversion she was baptized by the name of Rebecca, and she was sometimes styled the "Lady Rebecca." The ceremony of her baptism has been made the subject of a picture, (by Chapman,) exhibited in the rotundo of the Capitol at Washington.

Of the brothers of Pocahontas, Nantaquaus, or Nantaquoud, is especially distinguished for having shown Captain Smith "exceeding great courtesy," interceding with his father, Powhatan, in behalf of the captive, and he was the "manliest, comeliest, boldest spirit," Smith ever saw in a savage.

Of the sisters of Pocahontas two are particularly mentioned, Cleopatre and Matachanna. Strachey has recorded the names of the numerous wives and children of Powhatan, the greater part of which are harsh and guttural, and apparently almost incapable of being pronounced by the vocal organs of civilized man.

Smith says that Pocahontas, "with her wild train, visited Jamestown as freely as her father's habitation." In these visits

* Letter of C. W. Martin, Leeds Castle, England, to Conway Robinson, Esq., in Va. Hist. Reg., ii. 187.

† Stith, 136 and 285.

Chapter Four: The True Story of Pocahontas

Most are familiar with Pocahontas, either on a superficial level as a “Disney Character” or as some kind of an “Indian Princess” who established a form of benevolent relationship with the English settlers who first arrived in North America in the early 1600’s. Many books have been written about this legendary character but her true personality and historical significance has been shrouded in a great deal of mystery.

The starting point from a historical perspective in relation to the true story of Pocahontas begins with the exploits of Captain John Smith.

John Smith was an adventurer, soldier, explorer and author and through his exploits became a dominant force in the eventual success of Jamestown and the establishment of its legacy as the first permanent English settlement in North America. The life of Captain Smith was not without much turmoil, trials and tribulation and to some degree.... fiction.

John Smith was baptized on January 9, 1580, at Saint Helena's Church in Willoughby, Lincolnshire, England. His parents were George and Alice Smith. George was a yeoman farmer who owned land in Lincolnshire and also rented land from Lord Willoughby, his landlord and relation by marriage.

As a young boy, John attended local grammar schools learning reading, writing, arithmetic, and Latin. Not wanting to be a farmer, John ran away at age 13 to become a sailor, but his father stopped him, making John work as an apprentice to a nearby merchant. In 1596, following the death of his father, John sailed for France and joined English soldiers fighting the Spanish there and in the Netherlands. A truce ended this fighting in 1598, and John returned to England a trained soldier.

With his early success as a soldier, Smith’s passion for the open seas prevailed and he soon impressed several prominent men in England, especially Captain Bartholomew Gosnold, a man intent on founding an English colony in the Chesapeake region of Virginia. Gosnold, and others in London, organized the

Virginia Company of London and were granted a charter by King James I on April 10, 1606, to establish a colony in Virginia. In December 1606, the company dispatched three ships carrying 104 settlers, including Captain John Smith, to start this colony.

Established on May 13, 1607, the colony was named Jamestown, in honor of the King. It became the first permanent English settlement in North America, and first of 13 English colonies that later won independence from England and became one of the first 13 states of the United States of America. Jamestown's fate initially hung in the balance for many years due to the harsh climate and the inability to grow sustainable crops. Some historians credit Jamestown's survival to the efforts of Captain Smith.

Originally, the colony was governed by a council of seven men, and Captain Smith had been named by the Virginia Company to serve on this council. Ironically, he was arrested for mutiny on the voyage to Virginia, narrowly escaping being hanged, and arrived at Jamestown a prisoner. Fortunately, through the efforts of Jamestown's minister, Reverend Robert Hunt, he was allowed to assume his council position.

The first months of Jamestown's existence were very difficult due to shortages, unhealthy drinking water, disease, occasional skirmishes with the Powhatan Indians, and ineffectual council leadership due to bickering and the untimely death of Bartholomew Gosnold. In the fall, Smith conducted expeditions to Powhatan villages securing food for the desperate colonists. On one such expedition in December, he was captured by a large Powhatan hunting party and led on a long trek to various Powhatan villages, ultimately being brought before the paramount chief of the Powhatan people, Wahunsenacawh, better known as Chief Powhatan.

When the English in Jamestown arrived, "Wahunsenacawh" or more popularly Chief Powhatan, was the mamanatowick (paramount chief) of the more than 30 tribes that comprised the Powhatan Chiefdom. These additional tribes had been gained through marriage alliances and coercion. Each tribe had their own chief (weroance/weroansqua), but all were "ruled" by Chief Powhatan

and paid "tribute" to him. By this time the population of the members of the chiefdom was about 15,000 - these are the Native Americans, the English first interacted with on their arrival.

This encounter resulted in the famous story written by Smith himself of being saved by his account from execution by Pocahontas, Chief Powhatan's daughter. Most historians and anthropologists believe this event occurred, but some suggest that Smith may have misinterpreted the intention of his captors not realizing it was a symbolic adoption ceremony of Smith into the world of the Powhatan people. Others suggest this whole encounter was a matter of fiction and that the story of Pocahontas, "throwing herself in front of his executioners" and thereby saving his life was simply a figment of his imagination.¹² Nonetheless the two leaders conversed with one another and developed a bond or friendship and came to an understanding and in the spring of 1608 Smith was released from captivity. Powhatan then began to send gifts of food to help the English - his young daughter Pocahontas usually accompanied these visits as a sign of peace.



The Captain, having been released shortly after the ceremony, was escorted back to the Jamestown fort or enclave. By this time, only 38 of the 104 settlers were still alive, due to starvation.

More settlers arrived at Jamestown in January 1608, and Chief Powhatan sent some food to the English, but misfortune struck in early January with the accidental burning down of most of the fort. The extreme cold that winter, coupled with the loss of shelter and food from the fire, led to the deaths of more than half of the new settlers

¹² This is another example of not having the truth get in the way of a good story. There are several books on Pocahontas including "The True Story of Pocahontas" by The Other Side of History by Dr. Linwood "Little Bear" Custalow Angela L. Daniel "Silver Star".

There is also a short but captivating video on Youtube created by Royalty Now Studios entitled "Pocantus: Facial Recognition and Historical Documentary" which is well worth watching.

In 1609, Smith was seriously injured when his gunpowder pouch caught fire and he was sent home to England. With his departure relations between the Powhatan Indians and the English began to deteriorate more rapidly. Powhatan moved from Werowocomoco to Orapaks, which was further inland, to get away from the English. But the conflict grew more intense as more and more English settlers began to arrive causing a great deal of concern among the Indigenous population. Armed conflict and unrest between the settlers and the Indian tribes resulted in many casualties.

In 1610, Pocahontas, who was now a young woman, married a Powhatan "private captain" named Kocoum.

Three years later, an Indian raid resulted in the capture of English settlers and weapons and the English, in an attempt to force the return of the prisoners held captive by the tribe, kidnapped Pocahontas to try and force the return of English prisoners and stolen weapons. She was eventually taken to Henrico, Virginia to live. Negotiations between the two peoples for her release began.

While in captivity Pocahontas' natural curiosity resulted in her learning the English language and she became interested in the English culture, including the Christian faith. She converted to Christianity and was baptized as "Rebecca". During this time she met an Englishman named John Rolfe, who wanted to marry her. With blessings from her father and the governor, according to historical accounts, the two were married. The marriage solidified a peace between the English and the Powhatan tribe which became known as the "Peace of Pocahontas." The Rolfes later had a son, who was named Thomas.

In 1616, The Virginia Company paid to send Pocahontas, her husband, their infant son and several Powhatan Indians to England as ambassadors of goodwill. Their hope in doing so was to gain more interest in Jamestown and the colonization of North America and demonstrate that, contrary to popular belief, that the Indian population was peace-loving and not a real threat to the survival of the colonists.

In 1617, on her planned return voyage to North America, Pocahontas became ill and died in Gravesend, England, apparently from tuberculosis. She was only 27 years of age.

After her death the peace between the Powhatan Indians and the English back in Virginia began to unravel.

In 1618, Chief Powhatan died. His succession was briefly passed on to his younger brother, Opitchapam, and then to his next younger brother Opechancanough. Tired of the continuing arrival of English settlers and the continuing expansion into his "land", Opechancanough planned a coordinated attack on all the English settlements. Because of a young Indian boy's warning Jamestown itself was spared. Many outlying settlements were attacked and of a population of about 1,200 settlers about 350-400 were killed. After their attack, (March 22, 1618), the Powhatan Indians withdrew, as was their way, to wait for the English to leave the territory but the influx of immigrants continued. More conflicts arose and armed skirmishes, which are well-documented, continued for the next ten years.

By 1644, the population of the colony had risen to over 8,000 people and it appeared that the sporadic attacks did little to stop the migration to North America. The Powhatan Chief Opechancanough was still upset about the English encroachment on his land and as a result planned another coordinated assault or attack. Once again approximately 350-400 English were killed.

In 1646, Chief Opechancanough, who was now nearly 100 years of age, was captured by the English. While in captivity, he was shot and killed by an English guard, during an apparent attempt to escape. His death resulted in the end of the Powhatan Chiefdom.

Soon thereafter, treaties were then negotiated between the Powhatan and the English, setting up reservations and allowing for unfettered access to the lands thereby paving the way to the continued expansion of the colonies in North America.

Thirteen English colonies were soon established along the eastern seaboard and soon, the 1776 War of Independence gave way to the establishment of the United States of America.....And the rest, as they say, is history.

But Wait....There's more to the story.

Chapter Five: TRUTH can be Stranger than Fiction

As is often the case in this type of storytelling involving both history and genealogy, I create my “own” family tree for research purposes. Only in this way can one effectively keep track of dates, names and events and cross-reference details in order to ensure accuracy and continuity. To that end, I created a **SCHEIBNER FAMILY TREE** on ancestry.com.

Trees on the site can be either PUBLIC or PRIVATE. If designated “Public” then anyone who has access to the site can view the tree. Most amateur genealogists access other “public” trees compiled by others as a form of reference library. There is, however, a caution. Simply because the same name or data point has been referenced on numerous public trees does not guarantee the accuracy of the information. It may simply mean that the same misinformation or data point has been carried forward and repeated innocently by numerous tree managers. Care must be taken not to take every piece of information at face value but one must rather check and double check the information and where possible, identify original source material or other reliable historical data or information to verify its accuracy. I have made my best effort in this case.

In completing the Scheibner Family tree and going back as many generations as reasonably possible, I identified the DAVIS lineage and the great great grandfathers of Ronald Lee Scheibner as follows:

8th Great Grandfather

Barnabas Davis (1599-1685)

9th Great Grandfather

James Davis (1583-1678)

10th Great Grandfather

John Davis also Davys (1551-1587)

11th Great Grandfather

Sir James Davis (1534-1579)

12th Great Grandfather

Sir Robert Davis (1500-1550)

13th Great Grandfather

Sir James Griffith Davis (1487-1520)

14th Great Grandfather

Sir James Gruffudd Hywel Davis (1450-1494)



Guffudd Hywel Davis

Birth 1450 - Anglesey, Wales
 Death 1494 - 1651522, Carmarthenshire, Wales
 Mother Ferch (Lady) Thomas
 Father Sir Ithel ap Howell Davis

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Guffudd Hywel Davis family tree [Family tree](#) [Explore more family trees](#)

Parents	Spouse(s)	Children Show all
 Sir Ithel Ap Howell Davis 1430 - 1467	 Sage Thomas 1465 - 1510	 Sir James Griffith Davis 12Th Ggf 1487 - 1520
 Ferch (Lady) Thomas 1430 - 1472		 Gwenhwyfer Verch Ifan Ap Meredydd 1480 - 1522

In my earlier article and in reference to the antecedents of my wife Joan Elaine Medlicott, and realizing that there was a DAVIS/Medlicott family connection, I went through the same exercise of identifying her great, great grandfathers and came to following conclusion:

13th Great Grandfather

Sir Robert Davis (1500-1550)

14th Great Grandfather

Sir James Griffith Davis (1487-1520)

15th Great Grandfather

Sir James Gruffudd Hywel Davis (1450-1494)

By a simple comparison, it should not go unnoticed that wife Joan Elaine Anhorn (nee Medlicott) of Medicine Hat and my brother-in-law Ronald Lee Scheibner **SHARE** the same great grandparents.

Truth is stranger than fiction!

As I ponder these amazing results of my genealogical/historical research and these unique family connections, I continue in my resolve to find the member of the Scheibner family who purportedly was a member of the Jesse James gang!

Now that would be an even BETTER story to tell.....

William J Anhorn K.C. ICD.D

The Mad Hatter Historian

About the Author

William J. Anhorn was born and raised in Medicine Hat, Alberta and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree (Political Science) from the University of Calgary and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Alberta. He returned to his hometown of Medicine Hat in 1976 and practiced law for over 35 years as a Senior partner with the Law firm of Pritchard and Company.

He retired in 2012 and he and his wife Joan Elaine Anhorn (Medlicott), a retired teacher, continue to reside there.



Always having a keen interest in writing and history, and more recently genealogy, he has researched and written a series of articles not only in relation to his family and his extended family (Anhorn/Medlicott/Williams/Mclvor) but also on behalf of others that have requested his assistance in discovering their own family origins. He has also written several articles relating to the history of his hometown. He is a member of the Medicine Hat Genealogical Society and former Chairman of the Historical and Heritage Resource Committee of the Medicine Hat Exhibition and Stampede Company.

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For his historical/genealogical articles and others stories which you may find of interest go to his Personal Homepage or blog at <http://wjanhorn.ca>