



Soule Kindred Newsletter

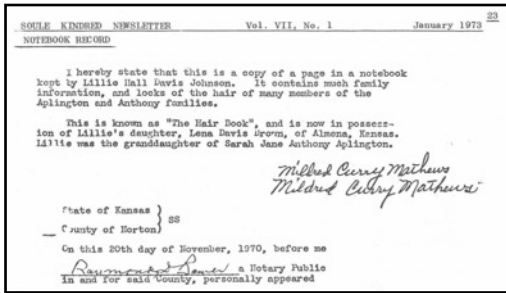
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Summer 2015

*Preserving Soule Heritage
for Future Generations*

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Help in the search for
"The Hair Book"



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**Robert W.
"Bob" Soule**



**Norman R.
Soule'**

An Introduction to the Genealogy Center at the Allen County Public Library

by Karen L. McNally

Will you be attending the Soule Kindred reunion in Fort Wayne, IN, in October? If so, you, as am I, are undoubtedly looking forward to meeting cousins and learning about the Soule families who have resided in northeast Indiana for well over 100 years. Are you also excited about the opportunity to conduct research at one of the best genealogy libraries in the country? Maybe filling in gaps in your family tree or breaking through a brick wall? I know I am!

If you love genealogy and have never visited the Allen County Public Library (ACPL) before, you are in for a real treat. The Genealogy Center contains the largest public genealogy collection in the United States. The Family History Center collection in Salt Lake City is larger but is privately owned.

The Fred J. Reynolds Historical Genealogy Collection, named for the head librarian who first organized a genealogy collection at ACPL, focuses on North America, including Canada. However, there are numerous British Isles and both Eastern and Western European resources as well.



Photo courtesy of Allen County Public Library

Continuing a Soule Kindred Family History Chart... 42 Years Later

By Russell D. Francis

I became interested in my family genealogy about two years ago. Fortunately, my aunt on my mother's side had been collecting and assembling family history documents and photos for many years. My aunt passed away in 2008 but left a treasure trove of information for me to get started.

My aunt had documented our lineage going back to Abigail Soule and noted that we were descendants of George Soule, a Mayflower passenger. But there was no indication of how Abigail Soule was related to George Soule. As I was sorting through my aunt's archives, I found a letter from my great-grandmother's cousin, Mildred Curry Mathews, which mentioned Abigail Soule. Ms. Mathews again noted that we were descended from George Soule. There was also a blank application to join the Mayflower Society.



Beverly Jean (Iburg) McFarland - My Aunt Jean gave me a head start on my research.

Not knowing where to begin, I started searching on the Internet. Eventually, I found the Soule Kindred website. Looking through the archived newsletters I ran across a multipage family history chart submitted by the very same Mildred Curry Mathews back in January 1973 (Vol. VII, No. 1, Pg. 20-25). Mildred's charts clearly showed the family history from my 2nd great-grandmother to Abigail Soule to George Soule, who was Abigail's 3rd great-grandfather.

With that information in hand, I decided to submit an application to the Mayflower Society of Oregon. Little did I know, they wanted a lot more than just a family history chart, so I spent most of last year gathering birth certificates, death certificates, marriage certificates, census documents and obituaries to prove my relationship to Abigail Soule.

Finally, in March 2015, I received my certificate from the Mayflower Society.

There may be a few members who remember Mildred Curry Mathews (she passed away in 1982). Her contribution to the Soule Kindred newsletter was instrumental in discovering my lineage to George Soule, my 10th great-grandfather. You can find my complete lineage to George Soule in The Soule Kindred Family Tree Database.

In that same 1973 Soule Kindred newsletter, Mildred Curry Mathews includes an affidavit declaring some pages she submitted to the newsletter were from a notebook kept by my 2nd great-grandmother, Lillie Hall Davis Johnson, which "contains much family information, and locks of hair of many members of the family". It is known as "The Hair Book" and was passed down to Lillie's daughter, Lena Davis Brown of Almena, Kansas. I've been trying to track down that book, but I am at a dead end. As you can imagine, I would love to get a look at that book. Any help in that area would certainly be appreciated.

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Mildred Curry Mathews

Continuing a Soule Kindred Family History Chart...42 Years continued...

SOULE KINDRED NEWSLETTER	Vol. VII, No. 1	January 1973 ²³
NOTEBOOK RECORD		
<p>I hereby state that this is a copy of a page in a notebook kept by Lillie Hall Davis Johnson. It contains much family information, and locks of the hair of many members of the Aplington and Anthony families.</p> <p>This is known as "The Hair Book", and is now in possession of Lillie's daughter, Lena Davis Brown, of Alma, Kansas. Lillie was the granddaughter of Sarah Jane Anthony Aplington.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Mildred Curry Mathews</i> <i>Mildred Curry Mathews</i></p> <p>State of Kansas } County of Horton } SS</p> <p>On this 20th day of November, 1970, before me</p> <p><i>Raymond D. Jones</i> a Notary Public in and for said County, personally appeared</p>		



Please contact Russell should you have a lead on "The Hair Book".

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The affidavit sent to the Soule Kindred Newsletter in 1973.

****Wanted: A Few Good Soules****

Soule Kindred Needs You!

Are you interested in preserving Soule heritage for your children, grandchildren, and all future generations? Do you have talents and skills that are currently not being used to their fullest? If your answer to both questions is yes, why not combine the two and consider becoming a member of the Soule Kindred Board of Directors?

Soule Kindred has made great strides over the past six years turning itself into a 21st century organization. The Soule Kindred website attracts both guests and new members. The Soule Kindred Facebook group now has over 625 members and the newer Soule Kindred organizational Facebook page counts more than 250 Likes. The Soule Kindred Family Tree Database is active and currently contains 855 families and 2,300 individuals, and additional research on Mary Becket's origins was conducted this year. The potential for Soule Kindred to become the go-to resource for all things related to George Soule and his descendants is unlimited.

But that vision can only become a reality through the help of dedicated individuals who volunteer their time and expertise. Volunteers make it happen, such as Keith Kingman, who chairs the Soule Family Tree Committee and is the administrator of the Soule Kindred Family Tree Database; or Jo Anne Makely, who took on the duties of Treasurer this year; or Virginia Hayes, host of the 2015 Soule Kindred Reunion.

As Soule Kindred looks toward its 50th anniversary in 2017, wouldn't you like to be a part of the continuing effort to create a bigger, better, "go-to" organization? Although all talents and skills are welcome, the Board is in particular need of **expertise in accounting, computer databases and programs such as Excel, reunion planning, social media and, especially, web development.** Members may nominate themselves or other members.

Board directors must be willing to participate in quarterly phone-conference meetings and actively participate in the administration of the organization. Attendance at biennial reunions is encouraged. To nominate yourself or another Soule Kindred member, just complete the nomination form on page 10 and mail it to the address shown on the form. Alternatively, you may go to the Soule Kindred website at www.soulekindred.org and click on Wanted: A Few Good Soules. Nominations must be received by September 30.

If you have any questions, please contact Jo Anne Makely at jamakely@gmail.com or 843-412-2103.