

Dunham Singletary

FAMILY CONNECTIONS

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Volume 11

President's Letter

As we approach the holidays, for many of us, the word "family" has a deeper meaning. For my family the holidays are a time to reconnect and celebrate the joys of life. It is also a time to share in our losses during the passing year – helping each other grieve and overcome our loss.

This past year, we had a loss in our family – my brother John passed away at the end of March. And after many years of mental illness, trying to help him, he took his own life.

In researching my Dunham family – I have seen a trail of evidence that shows the joy of living, with children born, growing to adulthood, marrying, and starting the cycle again. I have also found records showing the great loss that some of my relatives endured with sons & daughters passing on "before their time".

As a Dunham Community – I am deeply saddened to inform you that we had another great loss this year. We focus and dedicate this issue of our Quarterly Newsletter to the memory of Eric Dunham of Walla Walla, Washington. Both he and his late father were very well known as the founders of Dunham Cellars Winery. He passed away unexpectedly at the young age of 44 in Cannon Beach, Oregon. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family as they enter this holiday season without Eric. *Jeffrey M. Dunham, President*

Editor's Corner

The Dunham-Singletary Family Connections October newsletter is late this quarter. Travel and fall term teaching by the editor was the reason.

The fact that I was still working on the newsletter when I read that Eric Michael Dunham had died on October 23, 2014 allowed me to include the article about this Dunham family of Walla Walla, Washington. Eric's father Michael Dale Dunham had participated in DNA analysis and had been most interested in learning about his Dunham ancestry.

This line descends from Joseph Dunham who was an early settler at Fort Nashborough (later Nashville) Tennessee. Several years ago I did some research into that line and those results appear in this issue.

The second article in this issue is an entertaining poem, "Ballad of the Old Trunk" which was sent to me by Fred Dunham of South Byron, New York. Fred knew that his ancestors were chair makers in Carlton, New York, and that they went from there to Michigan. The lines in the poem written by Ruby Dunham Kiefer describe the route they took to get to "Paw-paw" land, (which is Michigan).

Let me take this opportunity to wish you all happy and safe holidays. As your families gather together I hope you will share stories about your ancestors.

Gratia Dunham Mahony, Editor



Eric Michael Dunham

(1970-2014)

Eric Dunham, of Dunham Cellars:

Walla Walla, Washington Wine Maker

By Gratia Dunham Mahony

The obituary of Eric Michael Dunham's father, Michael Dale Dunham, was posted in the DSFC issue of 15 July 2013. It is now the duty of DSFC to report another death, much too soon after the previous one in this Dunham family. Together with his parents, Eric founded Dunham Cellars in 1997, and developed it into one of the premier wineries in the state of Washington. Forty-four year old Eric Dunham died October 23, 2014 in Cannon Beach, Oregon.

After growing up in Walla Walla Valley Eric joined the U. S. Navy where he served in aviation maintenance in the San Francisco Bay area. Following his service he completed an internship with Hogue Cellars where he was hired as assistant winemaker at L'Ecole N^o 41. In 1997, following the commercial success of his first four vintages, Eric and his parents launched the Dunham Cellars winery.

An article published in the Walla Walla Union-Bulletin on Feb. 5, 2003 praises the wine making skills of Dunham Cellars. Speaking specifically of Eric the article states, "His winemaking has garnered Dunham Cellars medals in national competitions and mention in world wine magazines' best-of lists. Not only is he know for artistry in making wine, his handpainted designer bottles have commanded thousands of dollars at benefit auctions."

Eric Dunham donated his wines and his time to philanthropic organizations throughout the United States. He was a talented chef and loved to cook and entertain. Eric is survived by his wife, Kanae Nishimura Dunham, and two year old son Hikari Michael Dunham. He was

preceded in death by his father, Michael Dale Dunham, his mother, Phyllis Dunham Kepler, and his grandparents Wendell and Shirley (Mays) Dunham.

Family Descends from the Tennessee Dunham Line

A Joseph Dunham, born say 1705, was the probable head of the Dunham Families of Tennessee. Two young men, John and Daniel Dunham, are of record in the early settlement of Fort Nashborough, later Nashville, Tennessee. While we are not certain of the origin of these two men prior to their appearance in Fort Nashborough in 1780, we can speculate that they came with others who settled here. People came to these areas from Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Jersey, Virginia, North Carolina, and as new immigrants. Many of the new immigrants were Scots-Irish.

Joseph ¹ Dunham, the probable father of John ² and Daniel ² Dunham, could have come from any of these above groups. Another man, Henry H. Dunham was probably also a son of Joseph ¹ Dunham. Henry H. ² Dunham was born about 1750 in Shenandoah County, Virginia. He died in 1820 in Wake County, North Carolina. His wife was Elizabeth Medlin who he married about 1775 in Rutherford County, North Carolina.

From Henry H. ² Dunham the line continues:

Richard ³ Dunham (1795-1874)

John Sebron ⁴ Dunham (1825-1879+)

James ⁵ Dunham b. 1854 in Jackson County, Alabama, moved to Union County, Illinois

John Franklin ⁶ Dunham b. 1884 in Illinois, moved to New Madrid County, Missouri

Benjamin Wendall ⁷ Dunham b. 1920, died 1986 in Walla Walla, Washington

Michael Dale ⁸ Dunham participated in DNA analysis. His DNA test shows a close match to another man who took the DNA test in 2009. A third man who is believed to be from this line has also taken the DNA test. The DNA tests show these men to belong to haplogroup R1b1a2.

This Dunham family line is documented on the Dunham-Singletary Family Connections web site, www.dunham-singletary.org under Dunham Families, and by selecting Dunham Families of Tennessee. The web site carries the line out to John Sebron ⁴ Dunham (1825-1879+), and lists the children of John Sebron ⁴ and his wife Margaret (Pitman) Dunham.

My research article on the following pages will continue this Dunham family line down to the present generation.

Tennessee Dunham Line Continued

Research by Gratia Dunham Mahony

The Tennessee Dunham family begins with Joseph ¹ Dunham, his son Henry H. ² Dunham born about 1750 in Shenandoah County, Virginia. Richard ³ Dunham was born 14 February 1795 in Rutherford Co., NC; d. in Union County, IL 1 January 1874. The son of Richard ³ Dunham and his first wife Elizabeth was John Sebron ⁴ Dunham. John Sebron ⁴ Dunham was born 25 May 1825 and died in Illinois after 1879. He married in Dekalb County, Tennessee on 15 August 1849 Margaret Pitman. She was born 1833 in TN; d. after June 1880 in IL

John Dunham appears on the 1860 census in Paint Rock, Jackson Co. AL:

John Dunham	35	b. TN
Margaret	27	b. TN
James	5	b. AL
M. L.	1	b. AL
Wm.	7	b. AL

John Dunham appears on the 1880 census in South Pass, Union Co. IL:

John Dunham	55	b. TN	Farmer
Margaret	47	b. TN	
Lavina	21	b. AL	
John	18	b. AL	
James	25	b. AL	Mechanic
Sarah M.	8	b. IL	
Emma	4	b. IL	

Children of John S. ⁴ and Margaret (Pittman) Dunham:

- + i. William Riley ⁵ Dunham b. 13 April 1852 Jackson Co. AL
d. 13 Dec. 1931 Anna, Union Co. IL
- ii. Newton R. ⁵ Dunham b. abt. 1853 Jackson Co. AL
- + iii. **James David ⁵ Dunham b. Sept. 1854 in Jackson Co., AL**
d. before 1911

- iv. M. Lavenia ⁵ Dunham b. 1859 Jackson Co. AL
- + v. John David ⁵ Dunham b. 13 May 1861 Jackson Co. AL
 - d. 9 Nov. 1949
- vi. M. Eva ⁵ Dunham b. 1866 in Jackson Co. AL
- vii. Louisa Lula ⁵ Dunham b. 1869 in Jackson Co. AL
 - m. Wiley Tucker
- viii. Sarah Melissa ⁵ Dunham b. 1872 Union Co. IL
 - d. 14 Aug. 1881
- ix. Emma Angeline ⁵ Dunham b. 18 Jan. 1875 Union Co. IL
 - d. 1941
 - m. Zachariah Newbern Lyerla 4 Aug. 1898

Continuation of line from James David ⁵ Dunham

As can be seen in the 1880 census (above) James ⁵ Dunham appears in that census living in South Pass, Union County, Illinois. James ⁵ Dunham appears in the 1900 census in Cobden, Union County, Illinois with a wife named Dora who he married in 1881. The birth month of James was September, and the year given was 1854, in Alabama. From Union County Marriage records James Dunham married Dora Baggett in Cobden on July 12, 1881. The bride was Pandora Baggett, daughter of William A. and Martha (Reese) Baggett. Dora (Baggett) Dunham died March 10, 1932 and is buried in Flint, Genesee County, Michigan in Sunset Hills Cemetery. The family of James and Dora Dunham as given on the 1900 census follows:

James Dunham	45
Dora Dunham	37
Frank Dunham	16 (John Franklin Dunham, b. 1884)
Bonnie Dunham	12
Jessie Dunham	14
Dessie Dunham	5

The Find a Grave web site shows James David Dunham b. September 1854 in Alabama; died Oct. 15, 1902 in Union County, Illinois. He is buried in Duck Pond Cemetery.

Children of James David ⁵ and Pandora (Baggett) Dunham:

- i. **John Franklin ⁶ Dunham** b. 1884
- ii. Jessie ⁶ Dunham b. 1886
- iii. Bonnie ⁶ Dunham b. 1888
- iv. Van Andrew ⁶ Dunham b. 1889
- v. Martha Odessa ⁶ "Dessie" Dunham b. 1895

Van ⁶ Dunham appears on the 1910 census of Sikeston, Scott County, Missouri living with his wife Ruth, sister Dessie, and mother Dora. Dora is still living with Van Dunham and family in 1920 in Big Prairie, New Madrid County, Missouri. By 1930 Van Dunham and family together with his mother Dora Dunham are living in Flint, Genesee County, Michigan.

Van ⁶ Dunham died August 15, 1945 and is buried in Sunset Hills Cemetery, Flint, Michigan. His wife, Ruth Mae (White) Dunham died in 1953 and is also buried in Sunset Hills Cemetery.

John Franklin "Frank" Dunham



John Franklin Dunham
(1884-1949)

John Franklin ⁶ Dunham, called “Frank”, was born in Union County, Illinois 6 April 1884. He moved to Missouri for a number of years and then back east to Flint, Genesee County, Michigan where he died 18 July 1949. He married first in New Madrid County, Missouri 3 April 1906 Katie B. Sizemore. This couple had a daughter who died as an infant in 1907, and four sons. Katie (Sizemore) Dunham died in Missouri after the birth of her fourth son and Frank married second Kathryn McCary on 9 June 1919. Three children were born to Frank and Kathryn (McCary) Dunham. John Franklin ⁶ Dunham died in Flint, Genesee County, Michigan 18 July 1949. He is buried in Sunset Hills Cemetery, Flint, Michigan.

Children of John Franklin “Frank” and Katie B. (Sizemore) Dunham:

- i. infant Dunham b. & d. 1907
- ii. James William ⁷ Dunham (1910-1961)
- iii. Millard Birch ⁷ Dunham (1911-1997)
- iv. Harold Franklin ⁷ Dunham (1913-1959)
- v. John Paul ⁷ Dunham (1918-2000)

His mother, Katie B. (Sizemore) Dunham died at the birth of John Paul and he was adopted by a family named Stewart.

Children of John Franklin “Frank” and Kathryn (McCary) Dunham:

- vi. **Benjamin Wendall ⁷ Dunham**
- vii. Ruth Oneada ⁷ Dunham (1922-1988)
- viii. Bill Mack ⁷ Dunham (1925-1995)

(article continued on next page)

Benjamin Wendall ⁷ Dunham



Benjamin Wendall Dunham

Benjamin Wendall ⁷ called Wendall, Dunham was born in Matthews, New Madrid County, Missouri; died in Walla Walla, Washington 30 November 1986. He married in Walla Walla on 21 July 1939 Shirley Maureen Mays. Wendall Dunham is buried at Blue Mountain Memorial Gardens, College Place, Walla Walla County, Washington. His wife, Shirley (Mays) Dunham who died 8 June 1983 is also buried at Blue Mountain Memorial Gardens.

Wendall ⁷ and Shirley (Mays) Dunham were the parents of Michael Dale ⁸ Dunham who died in Walla Walla, Washington on May 18, 2013.

Michael Dale ⁸ Dunham was the father of Eirc ⁹ Dunham born May 30, 1970, who died October 23, 2014.

Eric is survived by two sisters, Michelle (Dunham) Sikma and Kat (Dunham) Duty.



The Way They Went to Michigan

by Fred Dunham and Gratia Dunham Mahony

The October 2011 issue of DSFC contained an article about the ancestors of Matthew Dunham, chairmaker, of Carlton, Orleans County, New York. From research done at that time the line to which Matthew Dunham belongs descends from Deacon John ¹ Dunham through Jonathan ², Jonathan ³, Hezekiah ⁴, Matthew ⁵ and Matthew ⁶ and his wife Ruth Strong. This couple had three sons, James ⁷ b. in Tyringham, MA 28 December 1782; Matthew ⁷ b. in Stockbridge, MA 28 October 1784; and Charles ⁷ b. about 1787 in Berkshire County, MA. These three brothers, together with their father Matthew ⁶ came to Carlton, New York and built a saw mill on Johnson's Creek. The family became well known for making chairs and established the Dunham Chair Works in Carlton New York. (see photo of chair in DSFC newsletter Vol. 9, Issue 1, p. 2-3)

Of these seventh generation sons, James ⁷ married about 1802 Mary Ward. James ⁷ and Mary (Ward) Dunham had four children before James' untimely death 13 February 1811. Mary (Ward) Dunham married second Stephen Jennings, and they moved to Berrien County, Michigan.

Children of James ⁷ and Mary (Ward) Dunham: all born Bloomfield Twp., Livingston Co., New York:

- i. James ⁸ Dunham, Jr. b. 5 December 1802/3
- ii. Jasper ⁸ Dunham b. 20 February 1806; d. 13 March 1807
- + iii. **Timothy Ward ³ Dunham** b. 12 January 1808
- iv. infant son ³ b. 9 April 1811; d. 10 April 1811

James ⁸ and Timothy Ward ⁸ Dunham both moved to Berrien County, Michigan. Ruby (Dunham) Kiefer, a great grand daughter of Timothy Ward ⁸ and his wife Catherine P. Newman found the following lovely poem among her ancestor's belongings. It tells the story of the family of Timothy Ward Dunham who left New York State and traveled west to Michigan.

Ballad of the Old Trunk

Great-Grandma left us years ago
Yet in our home today
There's still an old trunk long and low
Of things she packed away.

A hundred years that little chest
Has kept her treasures well
From old York State it traveled West
In cabin home to dwell.

Gently one day I raised the lid
To sort those keepsakes o'er
Knowing the memories it hid
Would prove a golden store.

Beneath this cap of yellowed lawn
An old lace mitt or two
A dress in style of years long gone—
A tiny red-kid shoe.

Letter signer "G"—a few faded lines—
That was her brother Glenn
Rode in the Gold Rush of '49—
Never came home again.

Picture of Gramp in Army blue
(Such whiskers—man alive!)
Here's his discharge from the army
too "Mustered out" in '65.

Newspaper clipping brittle with age
"Lincoln Speaks at Kalamazoo"
With thrill of pride she saved that page
For she saw and heard him too.

And here's this little leather book (dated 1829)
Between its ancient pages—A lacy valentine
Ornate with roses, hearts and dove,
Forget-me-nots of blue-
A verse that sang of deathless love
And vowed devotion true.

Last night I saw them in a dream
That youth and maiden both Beside
the Mohawk's silver stream
They walked, and pledged their troth.

In village church I saw them wed
Eighteen Forty, Easter Day
Then by a pioneer vision led
To Michigan make their way.

By canal and lake boat and slow ox-team,
O'er Territorial Trail,
They reached the homesite of their dream
Within the Paw Paw vale.

The line they founded that distant year
Still bears their honored name
The tender missive she held so dear
Still glows with a fadeless flame.

by Ruby Dunham Kiefer

Timothy Ward ⁸ Dunham and his son James Rossel ⁹ Dunham owned considerable property right along the shore of Lake Michigan in the Village of Stevensville, Town of Lincoln, Berrien County, Michigan. This land included large sand dunes and three fresh water ponds. The area was recently saved from commercial and resort development and is now the Grand Mere Park. When the Dunhams owned this land they operated an Ice House located between Grand Mere North and Middle lakes. The shallow Grand Mere South was a vast cranberry bog, flooded to protect the berries in the winter and drained for harvesting in the summer.



Timothy Ward ⁸ Dunham b. in Bloomfield, Livingstone County New York 12 January 1808; died in St. Joseph, Berrien County Michigan 11 February 1899. He married in Kalamazoo Michigan 28 June 1835 **Catherine P. Newman**, daughter of Enos and Patty (Patterson) Newman. She was born 23 August 1810, died 12 July 1892.

From a pamphlet about **OLD HOMESTEAD TEA ROOM of GRAND MERE PARK**, Stevensville, Michigan; S. Ella Dunham, Proprietor:

“The Dunham estate was originally purchased by T. W. Dunham in 1865. It then consisted of 1600 acres of thickly wooded lands. Forests of white pine covered the dry ground, while the swamps were dense with cedar and tamarack, and in the marshes, flourished wild grass and cranberries. In those early days the place was the scene of much activity while these native products were harvested. A saw-mill was constructed, corduroy roads and car tracks were laid; a pier was built into the lake and a scow, called the M. N. Dunham, was made and launched at the pier. Now there are few traces of these monarchs of the past.”

From 1860 Census of St. Joseph, Berrien Co. MI;

Timothy W. Dunham	50	Farmer	b. NY
Catherine	51		b. NY
Mary	18		b. MI

NEXT FAMILY:

James R. Dunham	24		b. MI
Rebecca A.	23		b. MI
Enos W.	4 mos.		b. MI

Children of Timothy Ward ⁸ and Catherine P. (Newman) Dunham: b. Kalamazoo Michigan

- + i. **James Rossel ⁹ Dunham** b. 23 April 1836
- ii. Mary ⁹ Dunham b. 23 May 1842 (twin)
- iii. Martha ⁹ Dunham b. 23 May 1842; d. 13 November 1845

James Rossel ⁹ Dunham born in Carlton, Orleans County New York 23 April 1836; died in St. Joseph, Berrien County Michigan 26 April 1919. He married in Kalamazoo County Michigan 25 June 1859 **Rebecca Ann Ackley**, daughter of Charles and Sarah/Sally (Smith) Ackley. She was born in Portage Township, Kalamazoo County Michigan 12 April 1837, died in St. Joseph, Berrien County Michigan 7 February 1926.

James Rossel ⁹ Dunham removed to Berrien County Michigan when he was 18 years old.

From 1870 Census of St. Joseph, Berrien Co. MI, Fam. # 593;

James Dunham	34	Fruit Grower	b. MI
Ann	33		b. MI (Rebecca Ann)
Enos	10		b. MI
Sarah	7		b. MI
Ernest	5		b. MI
Katie	5 mos.		b. MI

Children of James R. and Rebecca A. (Ackley) Dunham: born in St. Joseph Michigan

- i. **Enos Ward**¹⁰ **Dunham** b. 16 April 1860
 - d. 26 February 1924/5
 - m. 1883 Alice Heathman
- ii. Sarah Ella¹⁰ Dunham b. 1 January 1863, d. 31 October 1936, unm.

**She was proprietor of the Old Homestead Tea Room of Grand Mere Park,
Stevensville, Michigan.**

- iii. Ernest Jerome¹⁰ Dunham b. 12 January 1865
 - d. 20 February 1948
- iv. Katherine Euretta¹⁰ Dunham b. 17 January 1870; 30 May 1947
 - m. 27 October 1908 Henry Parker White
- v. Charles Walter¹⁰ Dunham b. 26 July 1872
 - m. 30 April 1898 Elsie Miller
- vi. Mary Agnes¹⁰ Dunham b. 22 March 1874
 - m. 6 June 1917 Wilbur E. Turner

Enos Ward¹⁰ **Dunham** born in St. Joseph, Berrien County Michigan 16 April 1860,^[1] died in Stevensville, Berrien County Michigan 26 February 1924-5. He married in 1883 **Alice Heathman**.

Children of Enos W. and Alice (Heathman) Dunham: born in Berrien Co. MI (prob. all b. in Stevensville)

- i. Cora Ann¹¹ Dunham b. 16 June 1884
 - m. 31 August 1909 Albert Miller Hite
- + ii. **Jesse James**¹¹ **Dunham** b. 24 April 1886
 - m. 23 November 1907 Ruby Anna Simpson
- iii. Carrie¹¹ Dunham b. 20 December 1889
 - m. 3 November 1907 Herbert C. Brown

- iv. Orville Otis ¹¹ Dunham b. 25 August 1896
 - m. ¹ 9 November 1919 Lucinda Mead
 - m. ² Leva Olmstead
- v. Gladys Alice ¹¹ Dunham b. 4 October 1900
 - m. 10 December 1918 Marlon Hendricks

Jesse James ¹¹ Dunham was born 24 April 1886; d. 1917. He married 23 November 1907 **Ruby Ann Simpson**. She was b. in Niles, Berrien County, MI 29 May 1883; died in St. Joseph, Berrien County, MI 31 January 1961. She married second Charles Kiefer, Jr. **Ruby Ann (Dunham) Kiefer** is the person who found the poem "The Ballad of an Old Trunk" written by Mary Ward Dunham, the wife of James Dunham.

Children of Jesse James ¹¹ and Ruby Ann (Simpson) Dunham:

- i. James R. ¹² Dunham (1909-1979)
- ii. L. Ezra ¹² Dunham b. 1911
- iii. William C. ¹² Dunham (1912-1983)
- iv. George Henley ¹² Dunham (1913-1994)
- v. Andrew Elliott ¹² Dunham (1915-1915)
- vi. Thomas W. ¹² Dunham (1916-1982)

