

Some Kaylor-Smeltzer Genealogy

Two years ago, while attempting once more to extend some of the family tree, I found some web-based sources that yielded quite unanticipated breakthroughs. The family involved was Estep – my grandmother Cline’s family. Since they were Mennonites, I had fallaciously assumed that this was a German family and that they had arrived in Pennsylvania in the 1730-1770 period – the first wave of German immigration. I was wrong on three fronts: the family was English, had arrived much earlier, and came to Maryland. As of this moment, I have found quite a few ancestors. But quite unexpectedly, I found very similar results with the Smeltzer family: it had intermarried in Maryland with English and that led to many discoveries. I am still progressing on this but I have already entered nearly 22,000 names of our direct ancestors – and maybe a hundred children of these direct ancestors. (Everyone discussed in this message is a direct ancestor.) In the process, I found Vikings and Visigoths, Popes and peasants, people who were sainted and people who were skinned alive. As an example, at right, I present the descent from William “the Conqueror” to our grand-mother.

I learned history, geography, language, and culture. It became far more fascinating than I had ever imagined. Here are some highlights.

1. *How far does this go back?* There are six individuals in the tree with pre-Christian era birthdates. The earliest is a Welsh King Bran ap Bran with an estimated birthdate between 43 BC and 17 BC. He is our 54th great grandfather¹.

2. *First Virginia Immigrant:* Edward Ellis and wife Elizabeth (Stevens) Ellis immigrated to Christ Church Parish, Middlesex, Virginia in 1638. This branch of the family stayed in Virginia for four generations before moving to Maryland. Luke Raven arrived in Virginia in about 1663 – his passage having been paid for by Colonel John Washington (the president’s great grandfather).

3. *Signers of the Magna Carta:* We have heard a good deal about the 25 barons elected by their colleagues to confront King John at Runnymede in 1215. Sixteen of those barons are ancestors, from 22nd to 25th great grandfathers. However, eight of the 25 had no descendants beyond grandchildren. In other words, we are descended from all but one of the barons who have present day descendants. Also, the Magna Carta has the names of 27 counselors of King John and we are descended from seven of those. Again, some of the others have no present-day descendants (in fact, eleven of those were clergy.) But we should not omit the man of the day, King John himself, our 23rd great grandfather.

King William I (*the Conqueror*)
1028 – 1087

King Henry I (*Henry Beauclerc*)
1068 – 1135

Empress Matilda (*Lady of the English*)
1102 – 1167

King Henry II (*Curtmantle*)
1133 – 1189

King John (*John Lackland*)
1166 – 1216

King Henry III (*Henry of Winchester*)
1207 – 1272

King Edward I (*Longshanks*)
1239 – 1307

King Edward II
1284 – 1327

King Edward III
1312 – 1401

Duke Edmund of Langley
1341 – 1402

Countess Constance of York
1374 – 1416

Baroness Eleanor Holland
1406 – 1459

Constance Touchette
1443 – 1464

Joan Whitney
1450 – 1503

Sir William Watkin Vaughan
1460 – 1540

Sybil (*Vaughan*) Powell
1480 – 1540

David Powell
1505 – 1535

Henry Powell
1530 – 1606

Captain John Powell
1558 – 1638

Ann (*Powell*) Stevens
1582 – ?

Elizabeth (*Stevens*) Ellis
1620 – 1670

Elizabeth (*Ellis*) Sutton
1651 – 1706

Christopher Sutton
1678 – 1737

Eleanor Mary (*Sutton*) Phillips
1701 – 1730

John Phillips
c. 1727 – 1769

Catherine (*Phillips*) Norris
1741 – 1813

Rachel (*Norris*) Smeltzer
1787 – 1866

Nathaniel L. Smeltzer
1819 – 1881

Evan Taylor Smeltzer
1849 – 1922

Ruth May (*Smeltzer*) Kaylor
1894 – 1975

¹ Throughout, “our” refers to those in the generation of Warren, Alan, Ann, Chess, Marilyn, Rick, Kay, Beth, and Jane.

4. *Robin Hood, Lady Godiva, and El Cid?* Ancestors Walter Goushill II, Sir Robert le Vavasour, and Sir William Peverel were all sheriffs of Nottingham. Lady Godiva (i.e., Countess Godiva of Mercia) apparently was a real person and she is our 28th great-grandmother. El Cid (a.k.a. Prince Rodrigo Díaz de Vivar) also did exist and is our 28th great grand-father. Many Baskervilles but no Sir Henry.

5. *Kings:* The number of kings is more than 1000. One thousand kings actually represent a tiny fraction of the totality of ancestors – almost all our ancestors were not kings and did not have their genealogy recorded. (In 20 generations, a person would have more than one million ancestors except for intermarriage. In 30 generations, a person has a billion ancestors. Since that was larger than the world’s population of the time, there has to be a good deal of intermarriage.) There’s no reason to believe this family was particularly “kingly”. Also, many of the kingdoms were pretty small. For example, Ireland had dozens of kingdoms (but a single “High King”). Wales, Scotland, Italy, and Spain had many as well.

The tree has seventeen kings of England, twenty kings of France, fourteen kings of (united) Scotland, and three high kings of Ireland. There are fifteen emperors of the Byzantine Empire (the continuation of the Roman Empire in its eastern provinces during Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages, when its capital city was Constantinople), one Roman emperor (Flavius Magnus Maximus Augustus), and fourteen emperors of the Holy Roman Empire. From Wikipedia: “The Holy Roman Empire was a multi-ethnic complex of territories in central Europe that developed during the Early Middle Ages and continued until its dissolution in 1806 during the Napoleonic Wars. The largest territory of the empire after 962 was the Kingdom of Germany, though it also came to include the neighboring Kingdom of Bohemia, the Kingdom of Burgundy, the Kingdom of Italy, and numerous other territories.”

Kings of France		Kings of Scotland		Holy Roman Emperors	
Clovis I	(c. 466 - 511)	Kenneth MacAlpin "the Conqueror"	(c. 810 - 859)	Charlemagne "the Great"	(742 - 814)
Clothar I	(c. 497 - 561)	Constantine I "the Wine-Bountiful"	(c. 836 - 877)	Louis I "the Pious"	(778 - 840)
Pepin III "the Short"	(714 - 768)	Donald II "the Madman"	(c. 862 - 900)	Lothair I	(795 - 855)
Charlemagne "the Great"	(742 - 814)	Malcolm I "the Dangerous Red"	(900 - 954)	Charles II "the Bald"	(823 - 877)
Louis I "the Pious"	(778 - 840)	Kenneth II "the Conqueror"	(932 - 995)	Louis II "the Younger"	(825 - 875)
Charles II "the Bald"	(823 - 877)	Malcolm II "the Destroyer"	(c. 954 - 1034)	Arnulf	(c. 850 - 899)
Louis II "the Stammerer"	(846 - 879)	Duncan I "the Diseased"	(1001 - 1040)	Berengar I	(c. 845 - 924)
Robert I	(866 - 923)	Malcolm III "Canmore"	(1031 - 1093)	Otto I "the Great"	(912 - 973)
Hugh Capet	(939 - 996)	Donald III "the Fair"	(1032 - 1099)	Otto II "the Red"	(955 - 983)
Robert II "the Pious"	(972 - 1031)	Duncan II "the Madman"	(c. 1060 - 1094)	Conrad II "the Elder"	(990 - 1039)
Henry I	(1008 - 1060)	David I "the Saint"	(1083 - 1153)	Henry III "the Black"	(1017 - 1056)
Philip I "the Amorous"	(1052 - 1108)	William I "the Lion"	(c. 1142 - 1214)	Henry IV	(1050 - 1106)
Louis VI "the Fat"	(1081 - 1137)	Alexander II "the Peaceful"	(1198 - 1249)	Frederick I "Barbarosa"	(1122 - 1190)
Louis VII "the Young"	(1120 - 1180)	John de Baliol	(c. 1207 - 1268)	Frederick II "Stopor Mudi"	(1194 - 1250)
Philip II "Auguste"	(1165 - 1223)				
Louis VIII "the Lion"	(1187- 1226)	Pre-Norman Kings of England		High Kings of Ireland	
Louis IX "Saint Louis"	(1214 - 1270)	Alfred "the Great"	(849- 899)	Máel Sechnaill mac Máele	(c. 810 - 962)
Philip III "the Bold"	(1245 - 1285)	Edward "the Elder"	(c. 874 - 924)	Flann Sinna mac Mael Sechnaill	(c. 847 - 916)
Philippe IV "the Fair"	(1268 - 1314)	Edmund I	(c. 921 - 946)	Brian Bóru mac Cennétig	(c. 941 - 1014)
		Edgar "the Peaceful"	(c. 940 - 959)		
		Æthelred "the Unready"	(c. 968 - 1016)		
		Sweyn "Forkbeard"	(c. 960 - 1014)		
		Edmund "Ironside"	(c. 990 - 1016)		
		Cnut "the Great"	(c. 995 - 1035)		

6. *Three Popes and Some Saints*: Most popes did not claim offspring, but we have ancestors who are parents of popes. Count Hugo von Egisheim VIII and Countess Matilda (30th great grandparents) were the parents of Pope Leo IX – the one on whose watch came the final separation between the Eastern and Roman churches. Count William I of Burgundy and Countess Etiennette (26th great grandparents) were the parents of Pope Callistus II, who issued various orders protecting Jews. Pope Gregory V, one of the nastier popes, was the son of Duke Otto of Carinthia and Duchess Judith of Bavaria (our 32nd great grandparents). Margrave Leopold III (a 31st great grandfather) of Austria is a patron saint of Austria. It seems that one might easily attain sainthood by endowing an abbey. As a result, there are thirty saints in the tree. Of course, the most famous of ancestor saints is our 23rd great grandfather, Saint Louis.

7. *Some Wonderful Nicknames*: Quite a few of these people had nicknames. Sure, there are many, many Greats, Goods, Piouses, and such. The interesting ones, however, sound like characters out of Snow White. We have The Haughty, Bald, Ragged, Fanged, Freckled, Lamé, Noisy, Blind, Hardy, Rich, Cruel, Hairy, Surly, One-eyed, Bastard, Devil, Incompetent, and far too many Fats. Finally, White Tooth, Madman, Trickster, and Iron Arm.

8. *Do I believe all of this?* I believe a good deal of it – in fact, I have included nothing that I even doubt. For sources I used the Web resources Geni.com, Ancestry.com, and Wikipedia. I have included nothing that I considered questionable. All of these sources try to document their entries. Nevertheless, when going back 60 generations, there are bound to be difficulties.

Should anyone like to explore my tree, I am happy to share it. I can format it as a GEDCOM file which is readable by all genealogy programs – including free ones.

Mommy Kay's Lemon Pound Cake

3	sticks	butter
3 ½	cups	flour
2 ¼	cups	sugar
6		large eggs
1	tablespoon	lemon extract
1	teaspoon	baking powder



1. Preheat oven to 250. Grease a bundt pan.
2. Cream butter and sugar together until light.
3. Beat eggs until lemon colored; add to butter and sugar mixture.
4. Sift four times with baking powder and gradually add to butter mixture, beating about five minutes.
5. Pour into the pan and bake for 2 hours.
6. Cool on cake rack about 10 minutes before turning out of pan.

Note: The original recipe called for a pound each of butter, flour, sugar and eggs. I've done the conversions. It also called for beating ten minutes. But, surely, this was before electric mixers. Five minutes is fine. You can probably also compromise on the sifting in these days of presifted flour.