

## Chapter 16

### More Genetic Genealogy involving my Case-Spencer Ancestors

[Updated 26 February 2019]

#### ***Introduction***

My paternal grandparents, Ray Miller Oakley (1876-1948) and his wife Kate Cameron Burks Oakley (1873-1954), were the first generation of the ***Oakley*** family to settle in Quincy, Illinois, and to raise their children there. Multiple generations of the descendants of Ray and Kate have their roots in Quincy, and while descendants of this couple now live literally from coast-to-coast, I refer to the extended group of ***Oakley*** descendants as the “Quincy Oakleys”.

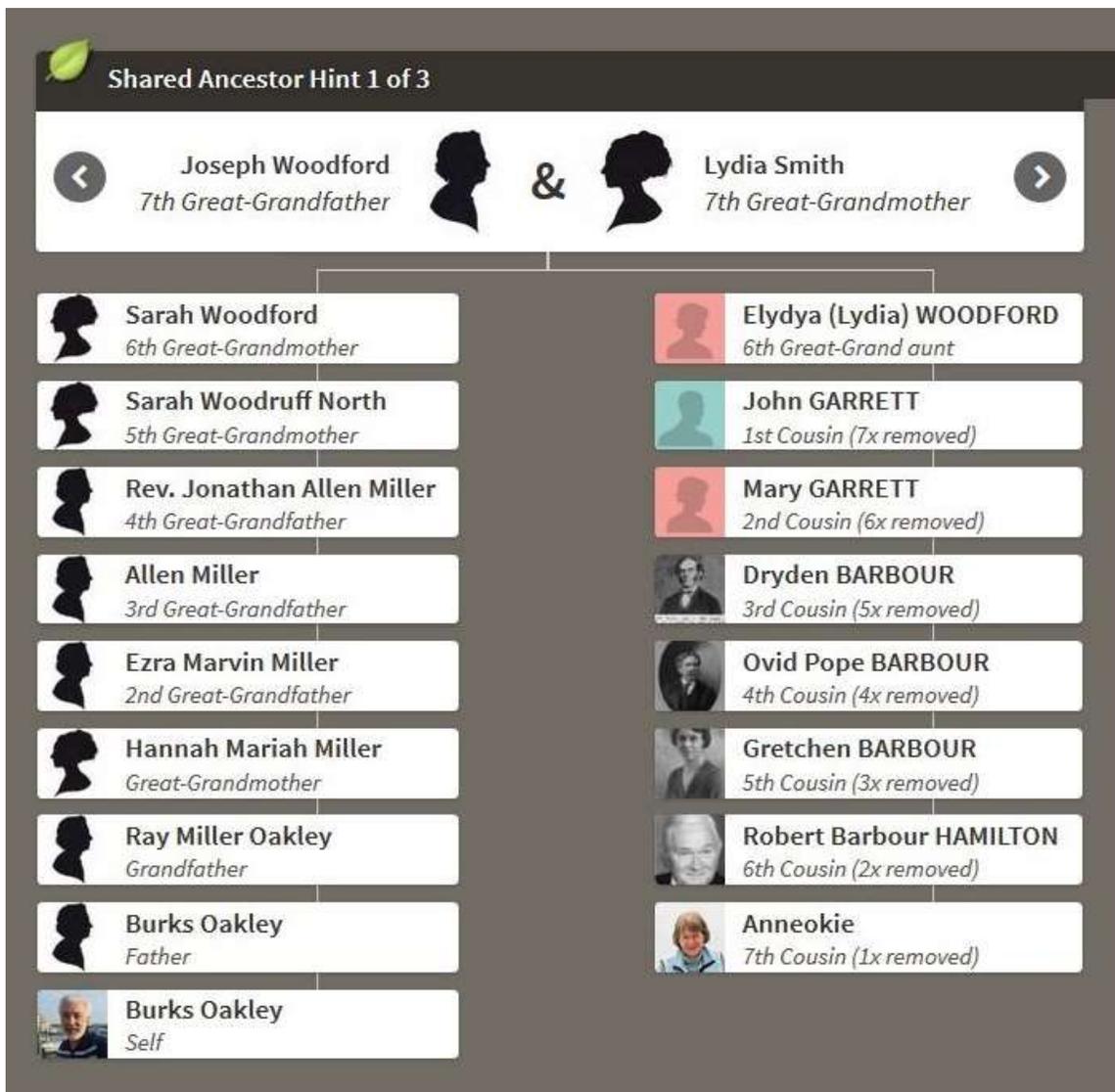
Over the past few years, I have conducted research on the genealogy of the “Quincy Oakley” family. I am particularly interested in genetic genealogy – that is, using the science of DNA testing to support and ultimately confirm the genealogical record.

Every once in a while, I get lucky and the stars align – and this narrative provides an excellent example of the power of genetic genealogy. Read on!

#### ***Anneokie – Cathy Hamilton Odelberg***

In the summer of 2017, I learned from the Ancestry.com website that I had a “Shared Ancestor Hint” with a woman having the username of ***Anneokie***. A Shared Ancestor Hint means that we have a DNA match *and* our family trees on the Ancestry.com website show that we both are descended from a common ancestor. This common ancestor is likely to be the source of our DNA match. However, I just didn’t have one Shared Ancestor Hint with ***Anneokie***, I had THREE!

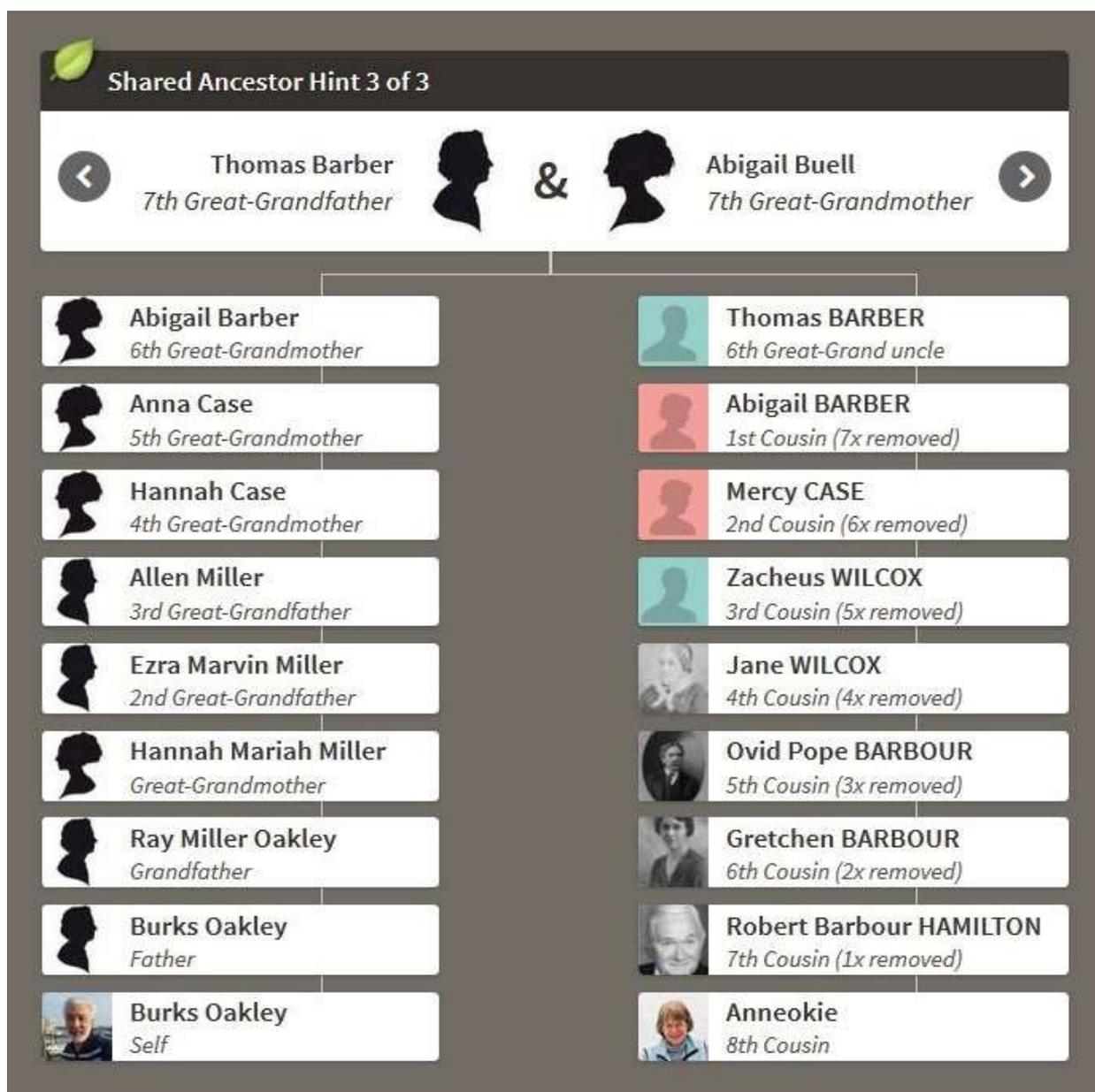
The first Shared Ancestor Hint shows that we both are descended from Joseph Woodford (1677-1760) and his wife Lydia Smith (1684-1744):



The second Shared Ancestor Hint shows that we both are descended from John Humphrey (1671-1732) and his wife Sarah Pettibone (1667-1748):



And finally, the third Shared Ancestor Hint shows that we both are descended from Thomas Barber (1671-1714) and his wife Abigail Buell (1673-1727):



The three couples that we both are descended from all lived west of Hartford, Connecticut, in the late 1600's. Since the population was small at that time, the families intermarried, and this would explain why we have so many ancestors in common.

But which of these family connections (if any) is really responsible for our DNA match? I sent **Anneokie** a message on Ancestry.com and asked her if she could put her DNA profile on the free GEDmatch.com website, where there are powerful software tools that allow users to make detailed comparisons of DNA matches at the chromosome level. I was hoping that by finding others who share this same match, we could triangulate on the person or persons responsible for

our DNA match. Subsequently, I was pleased to learn that indeed **Anneokie** put her DNA profile on GEDmatch.com – and I also learned that her real name is Cathy Hamilton Odelberg. She chose her username of **Anneokie** because her middle name is Anne and she grew up in Oklahoma.

From looking at our DNA match on GEDmatch.com, it turns out that Cathy and I have two DNA matches – a smaller one on Chromosome 2, and a larger one on Chromosome 22.

Comparing Kit A122463 (Burks Oakley II) and A560503 (*Anneokie)			
Chr.	Start location	End Location	centiMorgans (cM)
2	10,080,779	15,125,726	9.5
22	26,353,875	42,761,095	21.9
Estimated number of generations to MRCA = 4.4			

My younger daughter, Amy Oakley, also has a DNA match with Cathy, but they only share the larger segment on Chromosome 22:

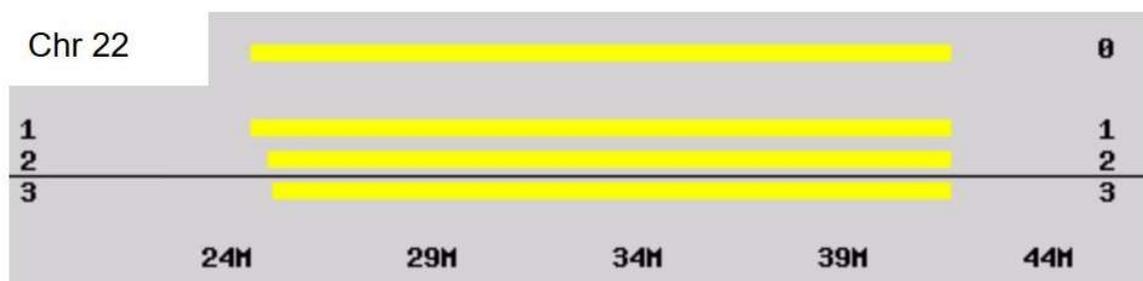
Comparing Kit A059368 (*Amy.Oakley) and A560503 (*Anneokie)			
Chr.	Start location	End Location	centiMorgans (cM)
22	26,490,407	42,761,095	21.3
Estimated number of generations to MRCA = 4.7			

I should add that my larger match with Cathy is 21.9 centiMorgans (cM) in length. As a rough approximation, one centiMorgan corresponds to one million base pairs along the chromosome, meaning that my match with Cathy on Chromosome 22 is approximately 22 million base pair in length – and something this large does not happen by chance – it means that we both inherited this segment from a common ancestor. This is termed Identical By Descent (IBD).

I decided to pursue the larger segment on Chromosome 22 first, simply because Amy also has this segment. My goal was to find out who else shares this same segment with Cathy and me (and Amy), and see what I could learn from their family trees.

The GEDmatch.com website has a software “tool” that lets one see who else matches two individuals, so I ran this analysis to see who has DNA matches with both Cathy and me on Chromosome 22. One of the top DNA matches was Deb

Cole Rickert (\*djr0125, kit #A471045). The following graph shows how Amy, Deb, and I match Cathy on Chromosome 22:



0-Cathy Hamilton, 1-Deb Cole, 2-Burks Oakley II, and 3-Amy Oakley

Each yellow bar in the above chart shows where along Chromosome 22 we have matching segments. I also examined my DNA match with Deb, and the results are shown in the following table:

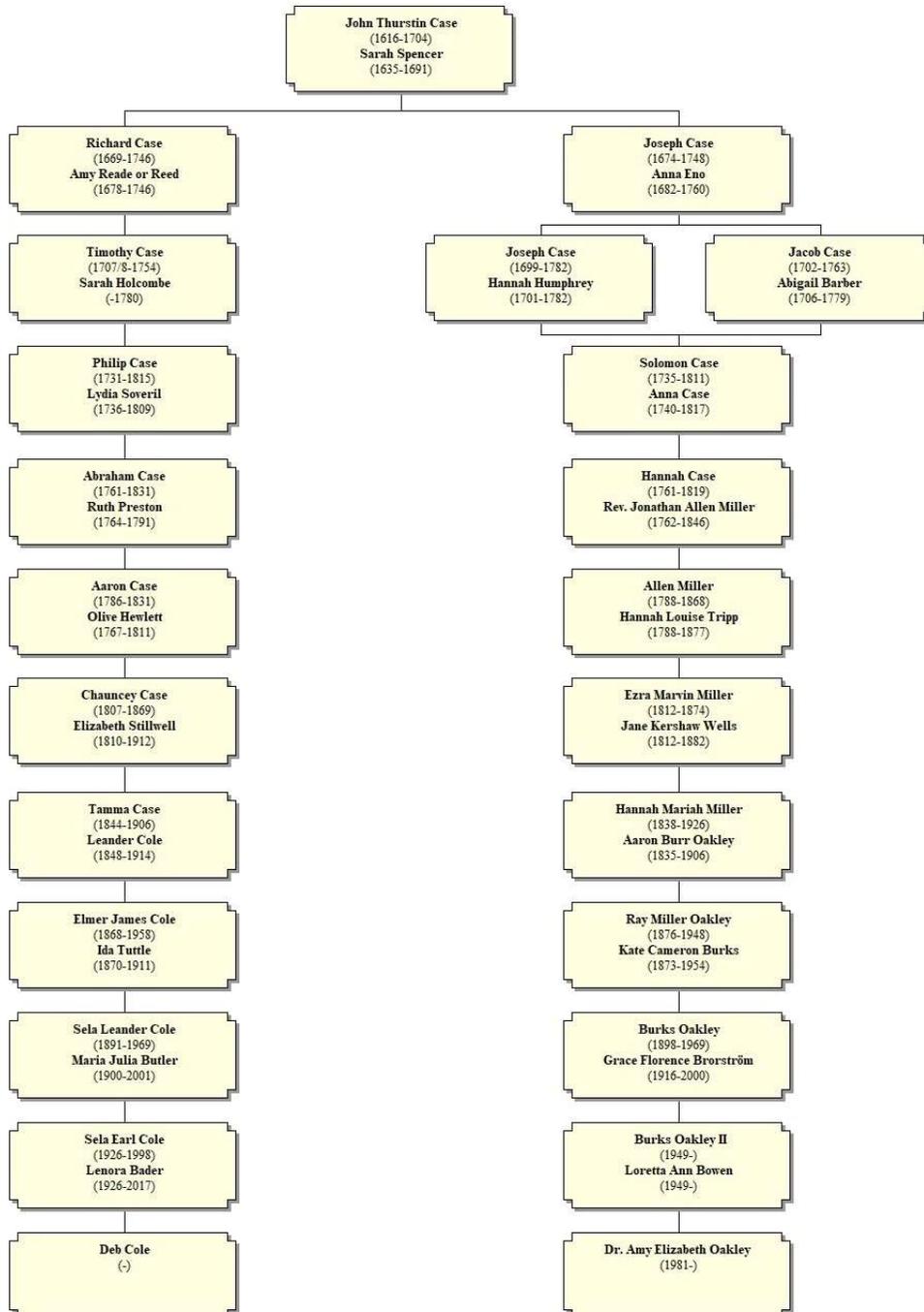
Comparing Kit A122463 (Burks Oakley II) and A471045 (*djr0125)			
Chr.	Start location	End Location	centiMorgans (cM)
22	26,330,527	42,654,255	21.4
Estimated number of generations to MRCA = 4.7			

Given the large size of this DNA match (21.4 cM), it is clear that we (Cathy, Deb, Burks, and Amy) all share a common ancestor. Cathy (*annieokie*) and Deb (*djr0125*) both have their family trees on Ancestry.com. When I examined their pedigrees (their direct ancestors), I was surprised to find that the only surnames the three of us had in common were Case and Smith. Our Smith ancestors were from very different parts of America, while our Case ancestors all lived in Simsbury, Connecticut (just northwest of Hartford, Connecticut). This was quite a shock, since I was expecting that our common ancestors would be one of the couples that were part of the Shared Ancestor Hints that I had with Cathy.

In Chapter 15 of my “Quincy Oakley” genealogy, I documented how a number of descendants of John Case (1616-1704) and his wife Sarah Spencer (1635-1691) share a common DNA segment on Chromosome 8. Could it be that a different group of descendants of this couple share a DNA match on Chromosome 22? Read on!

## Our Common Case Family Ancestors

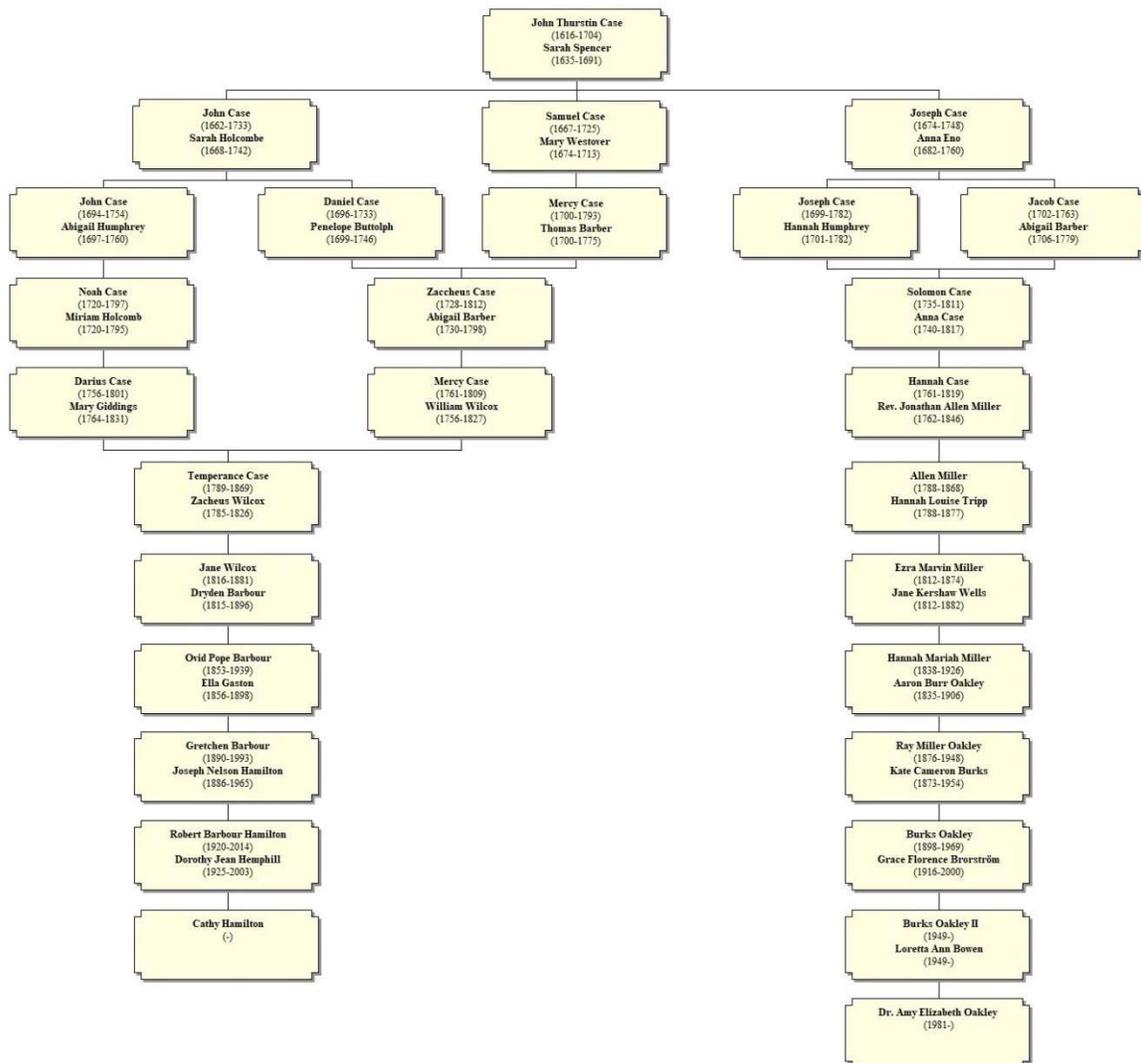
I first looked to see if Deb Cole Rickert and I share a common Case ancestor. The following chart shows that Deb and I are both descended from John Case (1616-1704) and his wife Sarah Spencer (1635-1691). Deb is descended from their son Richard Case (1669-1746) while I am descended from their son Joseph Case (1674-1748):



The upper-right portion of this chart needs a little explanation. Joseph Case (1674-1748) and his wife Anna Eno (1682-1760) had a large family, including sons Joseph Case (1700-1782) and Jacob Case (1702-1763). Joseph's son Solomon Case (1735-1811) and Jacob's daughter Anna Case (1740-1817) were first-cousins, and they married each other. My guess is that there just weren't a lot of people living in Simsbury, Connecticut, in the mid-1700's, so that meant that first-cousins married.

The bottom line is that both Deb Cole and I are descended from John Case and his wife Sarah Spencer.

I next looked to see if Cathy Hamilton Odelberg (*annieokie*) and I share common Case ancestors, and here the relationship is even more complicated than first-cousins marrying each other. The following chart shows our relationship:



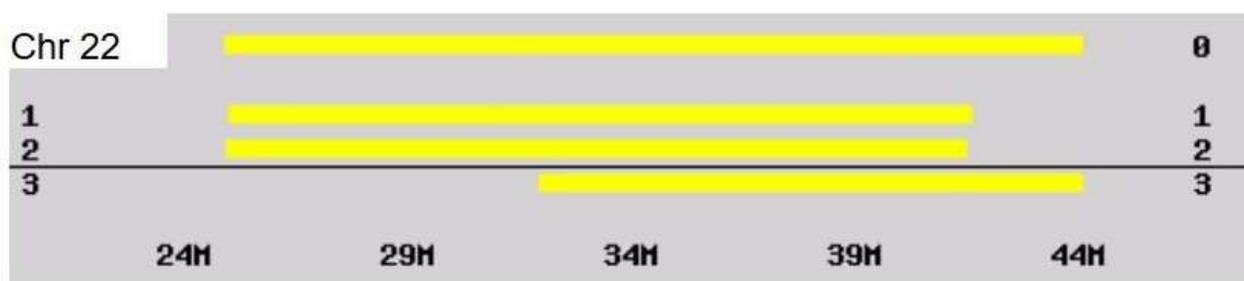
Rather than explain it all in boring detail, let me just summarize this by saying that in Cathy's line, second-cousins Zachariah Case and Abigail Barber married, and third-cousins Temperance Case and Zacheus Wilcox married.

Again, the bottom line is that both Cathy and I go back to John Case (1616-1704) and his wife Sarah Spencer (1635-1691). So that gives us three lines back to this couple, and the living descendants (Cathy, Deb, Burks, Amy) all share a common segment of DNA on Chromosome 22.

### ***Chris Williams – Another Case-Spencer Line***

At this point, my working hypothesis was that Cathy, Deb, and I all share a common DNA segment on Chromosome 22 going back to John Case and his wife Sarah Spencer. This hypothesis would be supported if I could find others who (1) share this DNA segment and (2) have a pedigree going back to this couple. Enter Chris Williams!

In looking through all of the people in the GEDmatch.com database who match both Cathy and me on Chromosome 22, I found a man named Chris Williams (\*ChrisCW, kit #A663701). The following graph shows that he shares the same segment on Chromosome 22 with Cathy, Deb, and me:

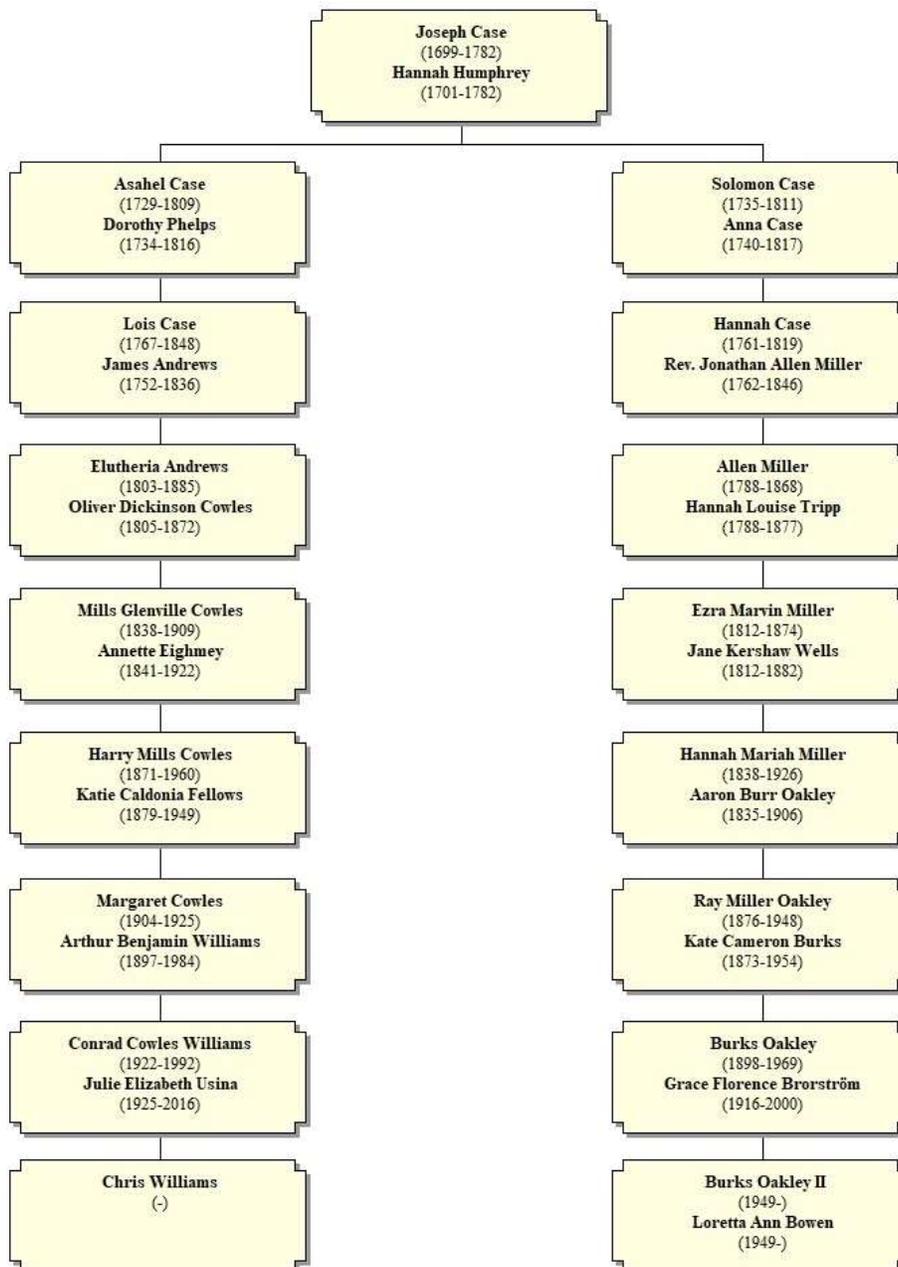


0-Burks, 1-Cathy Hamilton, 2-Deb Cole, and 3-Chris Williams

The graph shows that Chris's DNA segment on Chromosome 22 is slightly different than that of Cathy and Deb. The following table shows that Chris and I share 20.9 cM on Chromosome 22.

Comparing Kit A122463 (Burks Oakley II) and A663701 (*ChrisCW)			
Chr.	Start location	End Location	centiMorgans (cM)
22	33,238,589	44,633,668	20.9
Estimated number of generations to MRCA = 4.7			

Chris (*chwill360*) has his family tree on the Ancestry.com website:<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/tree/59509028/family>

Chris is descended from Joseph Case (1699-1782) and his wife Hannah Humphrey (1701-1782) through their son Asahel Case (1729-1809), while I am descended from this couple through their son Solomon Case. Of course, Joseph Case was a grandson of John Case and his wife Sarah Spencer.

So now we have FOUR different lines going back to John Case and Sarah Spencer, and the living descendants of each line share a common segment of DNA on Chromosome 22.

But wait! The story gets better!!

***Shawn Marchinek – Another Case-Spencer Line***

One of the other people in the GEDmatch.com database who has a DNA match with both Cathy Hamilton Odelberg and me is Shawn Marchinek (kit # A319503). The following graph shows this match:

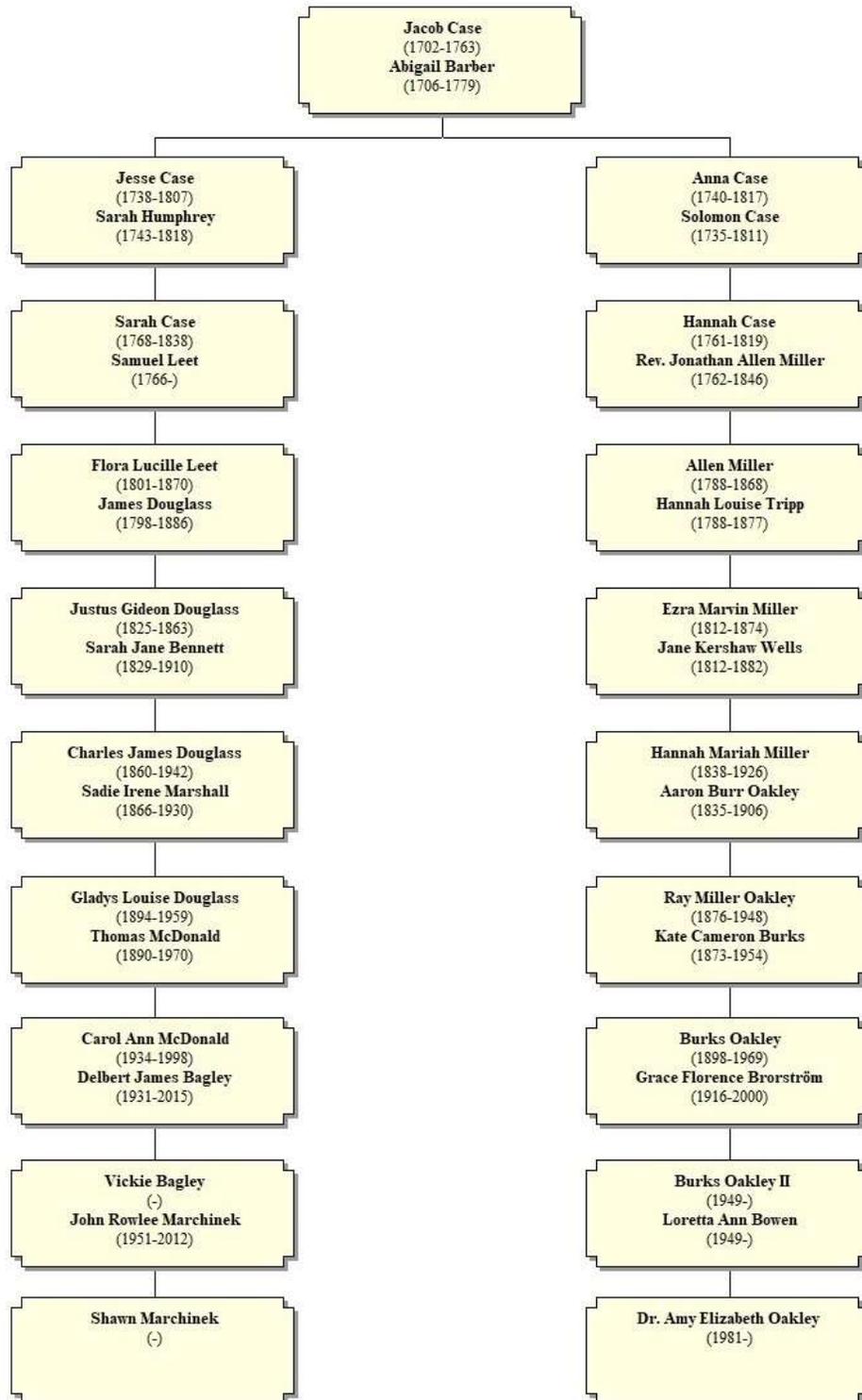


0-Burks, 1-Cathy Hamilton, 2-Deb Cole, 3-Chris Williams, and 4-Shawn Marchinek

In this chart, Shawn’s segment appears in green, since it is not as long as the other matches. Nevertheless, his match with me is 12.6 cM, as shown in the following table:

Comparing Kit A122463 (Burks Oakley II) and A319503 (Shawn Marchinek)			
Chr.	Start location	End Location	centiMorgans (cM)
22	29,863,225	36,124,239	12.6
Estimated number of generations to MRCA = 5.1			

Of course, Shawn also shares the Case-Spencer line, as shown in the following chart:



Shawn is descended from Jacob Case (1702-1763) and his wife Abigail Barber (1706-1779) through their son Jesse Case, while I am descended from this couple

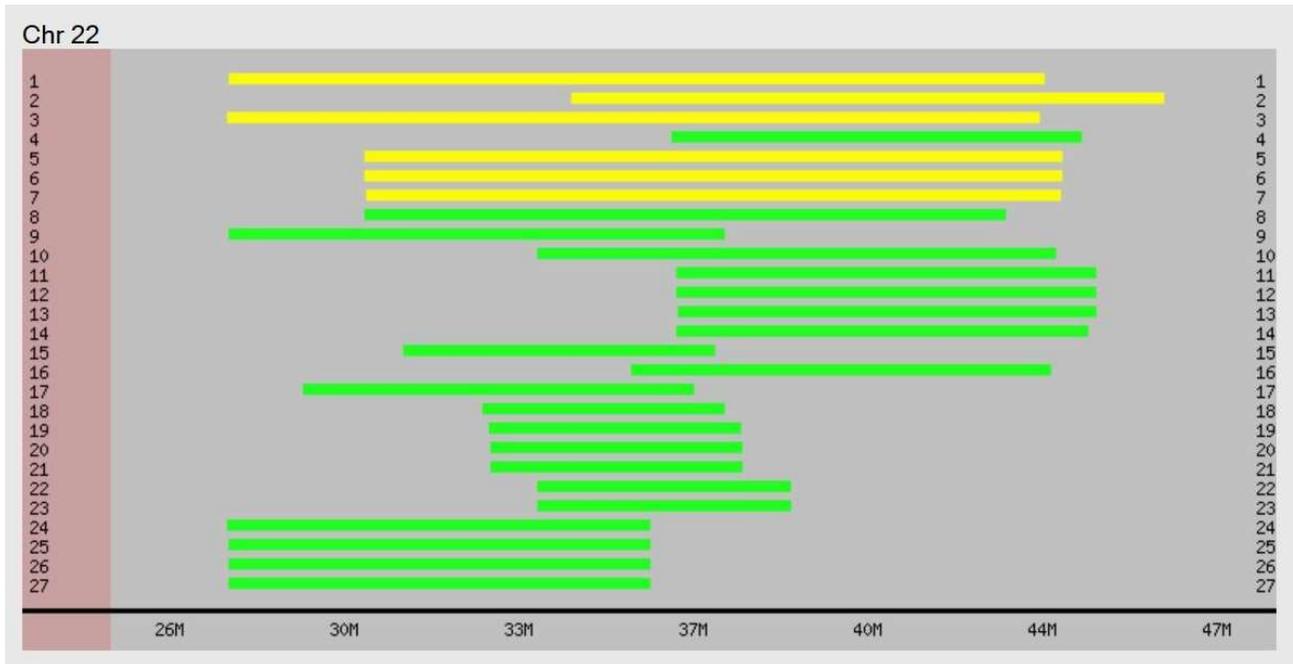
through their daughter Anna Case. Shawn now makes the fifth line that goes back to John Case and his wife Sarah Spencer, and living descendants at the end of each of these lines share a common segment of DNA on Chromosome 22.

The chart on the next page shows all five of these lines:



## ***Other DNA Matches on Chromosome 22***

There actually are 27 people in the GEDmatch.com database who match Cathy Hamilton Odelberg (kit #A560503) and me (kit # A122463) on Chromosome 22:



1-Cathy Hamilton, 2-Chris Williams, 3-Deb Cole, and 15-Shawn Marchinek  
(Amy Oakley's match with me is not shown, since it is so large)

I have communicated with many of these individuals, but some of them do not have family trees going back to the 1600's. Or they have gaps in their family trees. And one person who responded to me was adopted, and she is examining her DNA matches to try to find out more about her birth family. Hopefully, as more of these individuals learn more about their family history, I will find additional lines going back to John Case (1616-1704) and his wife Sarah Spencer (1635-1691). [Disclaimer - There may be fewer than 27 people who match us, since several of the people shown in the chart (above) appear to have submitted copies of their DNA from several different testing services.]

## ***Concluding Remarks***

In this narrative, I have identified five separate lines that go back to from John Case (1616-1704) and his wife Sarah Spencer (1635-1691), and the living descendants in each line share a common segment of DNA on Chromosome 22. This genetic evidence provides strong support for the genealogical record that shows that the “Quincy Oakleys” are descended from this couple, who lived in Simsbury, Connecticut, in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century.

In the previous chapter (Chapter 15), I documented how I share a DNA match on Chromosome 8 with a number of individuals who are descended from Sarah Spencer’s great-grandparents, Michael Spencer (1531-1599) and Elizabeth Whitbread (1540-1599). Through this Spencer family connection, the “Quincy Oakleys” are related to Lady Diana Spencer and to Sir Winston Spencer-Churchill.