

Chapter 4

Our Darling Family History

[Updated 9 April 2018]

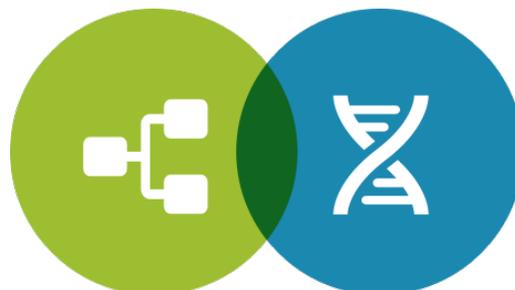
Introduction

The Ancestry.com website is invaluable to people conducting genealogical research. This site provides access to US Census records, marriage records, birth and death records, ship manifests, family photos, and other users' family trees, plus much, much more.

Recently, the Ancestry.com folks have been promoting AncestryDNA™, which analyses an individual's DNA and compares it to the DNA of other AncestryDNA™ members whose DNA profiles are already in the Ancestry.com database. These "DNA matches" allow users to identify relatives, ranging from immediate family to very distant cousins. In addition, by examining the family tree of a particular DNA match on the Ancestry.com website, users can determine how the two individuals are related. This works especially well if an individual's DNA matches happen to be very engaged with genealogy and have extensive family trees on the Ancestry.com website. Unfortunately, many people in the Ancestry.com DNA database have not published their family trees on this site, or only have a family tree going back a few generations.

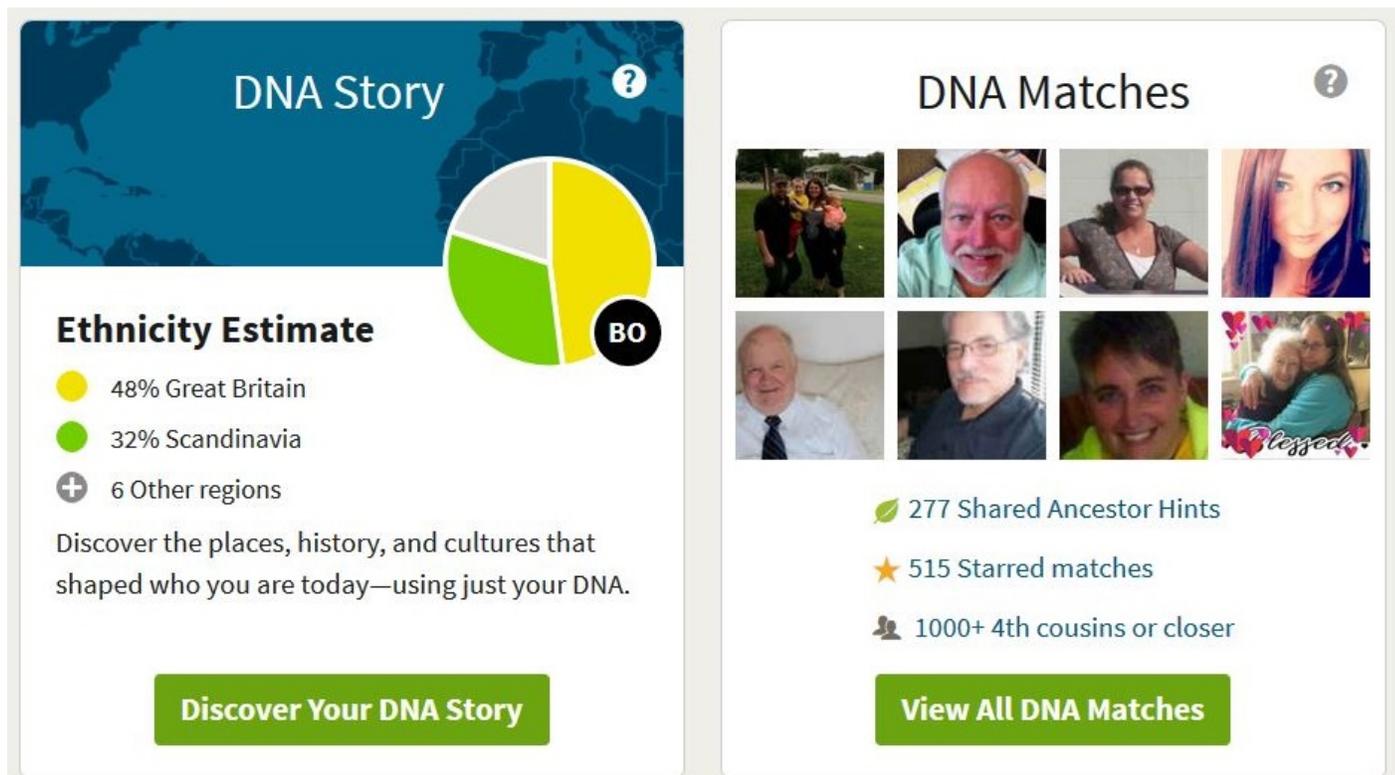


The Ancestry.com folks have (or at least had) a nice logo for AncestryDNA™, showing a family tree at the left and a DNA double helix at the right:



My DNA Results

My DNA results are shown below (current as of April 2018):



My ethnicity estimate is that I am 48% from Great Britain and 32% from Scandinavia. This appears to be reasonable, given the **Oakley-Miller-Burks-Crawford** ancestors on my father's side of the family, and all the Swedish ancestors on my mother's side of the family. My mother (who many of my **Quincy Oakley** cousins will remember as Aunt Grace) had four grandparents who emigrated from Sweden in the early 1880's – their family names were **Brorström**, **Larsson**, and **Wennström**; she was a "full-blooded" Swede. As an aside, it is curious that I don't show up as 50% Scandinavian.

The DNA analysis on the Ancestry.com website provided a map showing where my ancestors originated:



Again, no surprises here.

My DNA analysis (on the previous page) found that the Ancestry.com DNA database contains more than one thousand people with whom I have a DNA match who are fourth-cousins or closer. While this sounds really great, with further exploration I found a discussion board posting explaining what the “fourth-cousin” relationship really means:¹

To start with, DNA doesn't “know” anything about cousins. “Fourth cousins” is just a way of saying the amount of shared DNA suggests a 10th degree relationship. It could be a fourth cousin, it could be a third cousin twice removed or maybe a couple of others. “Cousin” is a genealogical concept, not a genetic one. Plus, all three major labs are known to be a little bit generous, so the actual shared relative could be a generation or two further back than you are led to believe.

“Fourth cousin” or it's equivalent, means you and your match share a great-great-great-grandparent, more or less. I don't know how old

¹ <http://ancestryforums.custhelp.com/posts/0093422292>

you are, but my gr-gr-gr-grandparents were all born between 1780 and 1820. So your ancestors and hers could have easily bumped into each other in the mid to late 1700's.

With this background information, I will now present some of my DNA matches that connect me with the *Darling* family, since, after all, this chapter is about our *Darling* family ancestors.

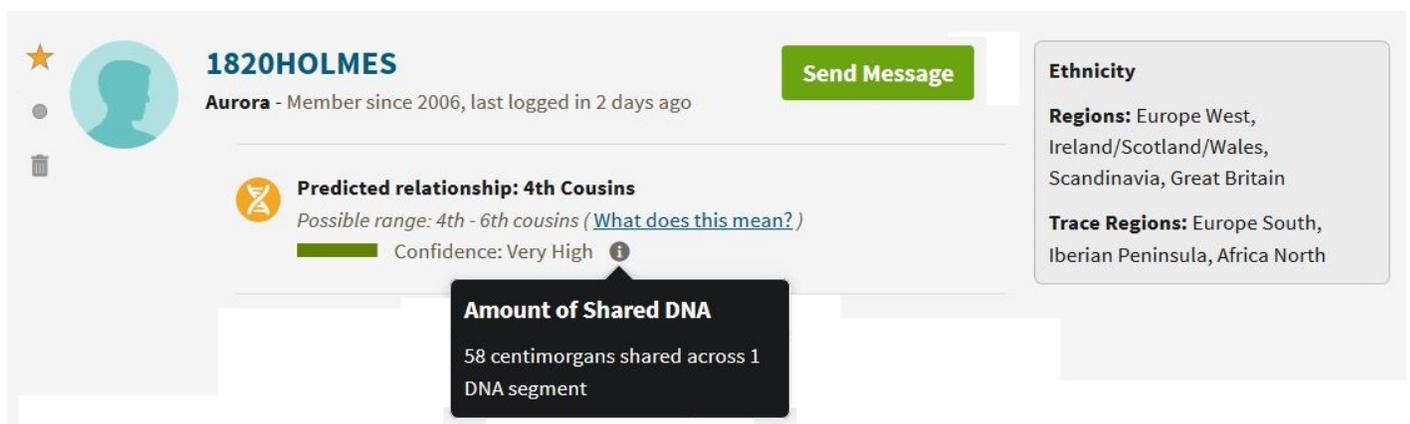
My DNA Match with 1820HOLMES

I started looking at my largest DNA matches out of the 1000+ on the AncestryDNA site. I quickly realized that many users have yet to publish their family trees on the Ancestry.com website, so it really didn't help to know that I had a DNA match with them. So I decided to focus on my largest DNA matches who DID have family trees on Ancestry.com. One of my top matches with a family tree is a man with the username of **1820HOLMES**, who could be as close as a 4th cousin – and he has 5675 people in his family tree:



A screenshot of a DNA match card. At the top, an orange bar says "4TH COUSIN". Below it is a star icon, a teal profile picture placeholder, and the name "1820HOLMES" with a document icon. Underneath the name, it says "Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins" with a question mark icon, and "Confidence: Very High" with a green progress bar. To the right, it says "5,675 people" with a leaf icon and a green "View Match" button.

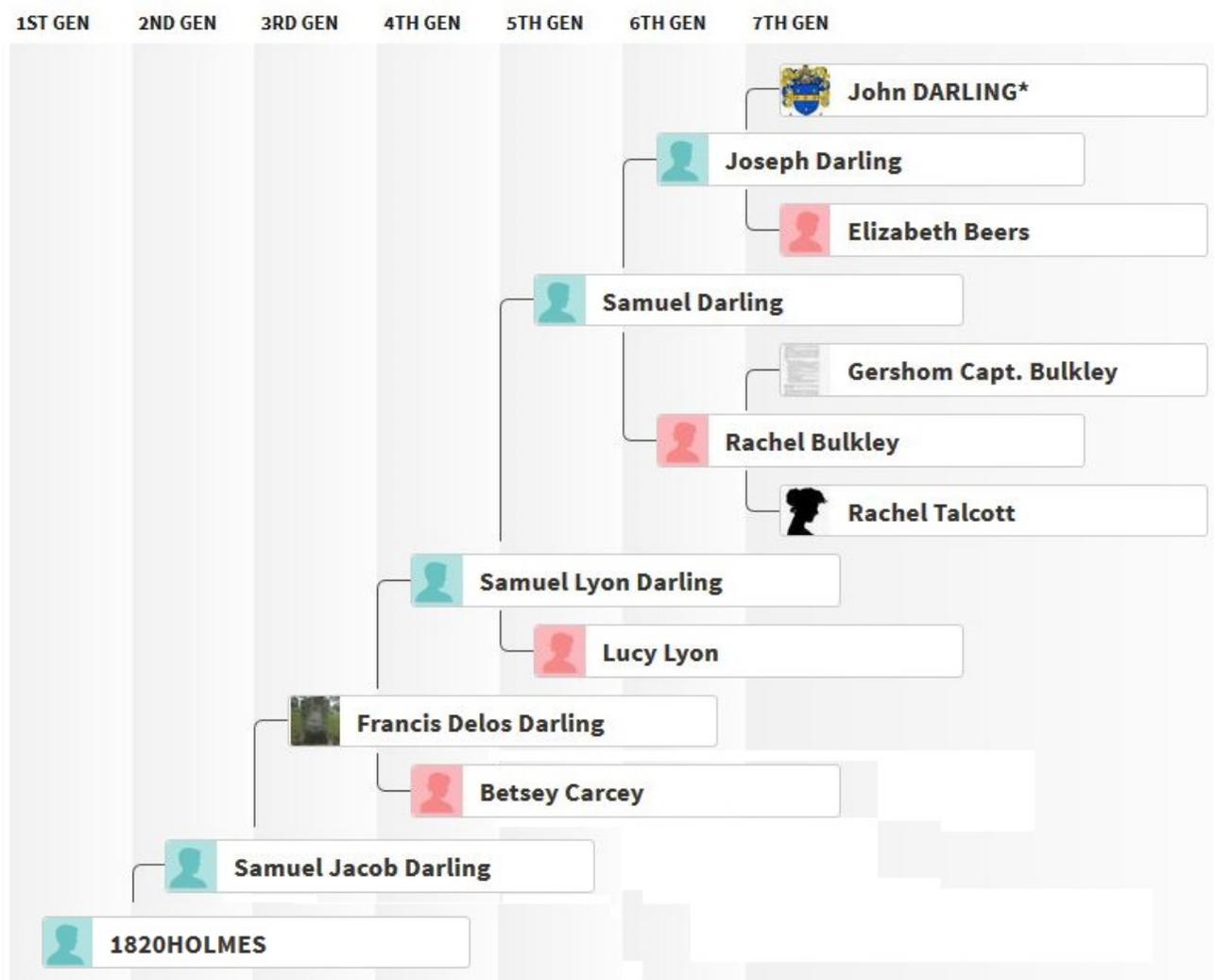
I clicked on the “View Match” button, which took me to a page showing details of our DNA match:



A screenshot of the detailed DNA match page for 1820HOLMES. The profile shows a star icon, a teal profile picture placeholder, and the name "1820HOLMES" with a "Send Message" button. Below the name, it says "Aurora - Member since 2006, last logged in 2 days ago". A section titled "Predicted relationship: 4th Cousins" includes a DNA icon, the text "Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins (What does this mean?)", and "Confidence: Very High" with a green progress bar. A black callout box points to the progress bar, stating "Amount of Shared DNA: 58 centimorgans shared across 1 DNA segment". On the right, an "Ethnicity" section lists "Regions: Europe West, Ireland/Scotland/Wales, Scandinavia, Great Britain" and "Trace Regions: Europe South, Iberian Peninsula, Africa North".

According to Ancestry.com, **1820HOLMES** and I share 58 centimorgans of DNA on a single segment. A centimorgan (abbreviated cM) is a measure of the length of a matching DNA segment; one cM very roughly corresponds to one million base pairs.²

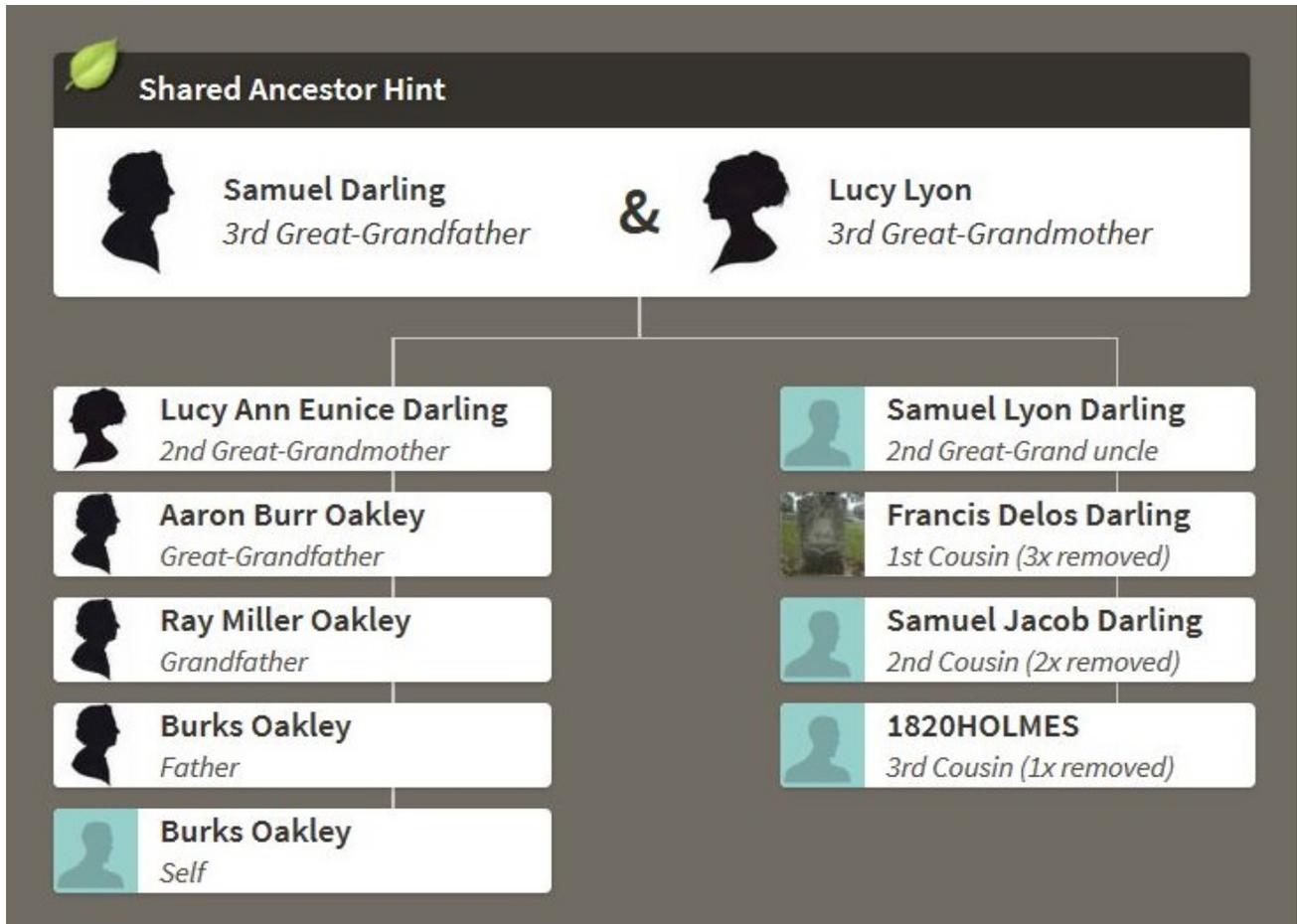
On the same page, **1820HOLMES** has a family tree showing only his direct ancestors (his “pedigree”):



I was immediately struck by the repeating family name of **Darling** in his paternal line, since my great-great grandmother’s maiden name was Lucy Ann Eunice Darling. She was born in 1804 in Easton, Fairfield County, Connecticut, and she married Amzi Oakley in 1824. Amzi was born around 1800 in Redding, Fairfield County, Connecticut.

² DNA is composed of the following base pairs - adenine (A), thymine (T), cytosine (C), and guanine (G). A always pairs with T, and C always pairs with G.

In fact, the Ancestry.com software compared my family tree with that of **1820HOLMES**, and created what they call a “Shared Ancestor Hint”, which shows a genealogical connection that could possibly account for the DNA match:



According to this Shared Ancestor Hint, **1820HOLMES** and I both are descended from Samuel Darling (1754-1807) and his wife Lucy Lyon (1760-1836). This chart shows that he and I are third-cousins, once-removed. Furthermore, it shows that my 2nd-great grandmother, Lucy Ann Eunice Darling, was a sister of **1820HOLMES'** great-grandfather, Samuel Lyon Darling.

I subsequently looked at the full family tree for **1820HOLMES** on the Ancestry.com website, and I learned that his name is David Clark Darling; he was born in 1936 and he currently lives in Aurora, Colorado. Dave and I now have exchanged a number of e-mail notes, and he kindly sent me a number of family photos, representing his branch of the **Darling** family tree. Several of these photos appear in Appendix A.

Another Darling DNA Match – with Jon Eyer

One of the features of the Ancestry.com website is called “Shared Matches”. Software on Ancestry.com website searches through its DNA database to identify any other individuals who have an identical segment that “matches” an existing match. That is, if individuals A and B have a DNA match, they very likely have a common ancestor. If individual C has a “Shared Match” with A and B, it is likely that all three of these individuals have the same common ancestor.

I looked at my “Shared Matches” with **1820HOLMES** (Dave Darling):

The screenshot shows the 'Shared Matches' page for the user 1820HOLMES. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Pedigree and Surnames', 'Shared Matches', and 'Map and Locations'. The main heading is 'Shared matches with 1820HOLMES'. Below this, there are three match categories: '2ND COUSIN', '4TH COUSIN', and '4TH COUSIN'. Each category lists matches with their profile pictures, usernames, possible ranges, confidence levels, and the number of other people who share the match. A 'View Match' button is provided for each match.

Relationship	Match	Possible Range	Confidence	Other People	Action
2ND COUSIN	eidem67	1st - 2nd cousins	Extremely High	62 people	View Match
4TH COUSIN	Jon Eyer	4th - 6th cousins	Extremely High	No family tree	View Match
4TH COUSIN	mادمelicious	4th - 6th cousins	Good	1,897 people	View Match

Interesting that my first-cousin once-removed, Mark Eidem (username of **eidem67** on Ancestry.com), shares this match with Dave Darling and me. Mark is an Oakley descendant, so it is not at all surprising for him to have a “Shared Match” with Dave and me. Another person who shares this match has the username **Jon Eyer**, which I assume is his real name, as well. Based on this “Shared Match”, I predicted that Jon Eyer is also descended from Samuel Darling (1754-1807) and his wife Lucy Lyon (1760-1836), or one of their ancestors (or even one of their descendants).


Jon Eyer
 Member since 2018, last logged in today

[Send Message](#)

Ethnicity
Regions: Great Britain, Europe West, Scandinavia
Trace Regions: Ireland/Scotland /Wales, Iberian Peninsula


Predicted relationship: 4th Cousins
 Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins ([What does this mean?](#))
 Confidence: Extremely High

Amount of Shared DNA
 62 centimorgans shared across 2 DNA segments

The size of my DNA match with Jon Eyer (62 cM) is comparable with the size of my DNA match with Dave Darling (58 cM), so it is likely that our match doesn't go back any farther than Samuel Darling (1754-1807) and his wife Lucy Lyon (1760-1836).

I looked at Jon's family tree on the Ancestry.com website, and sure enough, he has ***Darling*** ancestors:

[Pedigree and Surnames](#) | [Shared Matches](#) | [Map and Locations](#)

PREVIEW: Jon Eyer's tree

SHARED SURNAMES

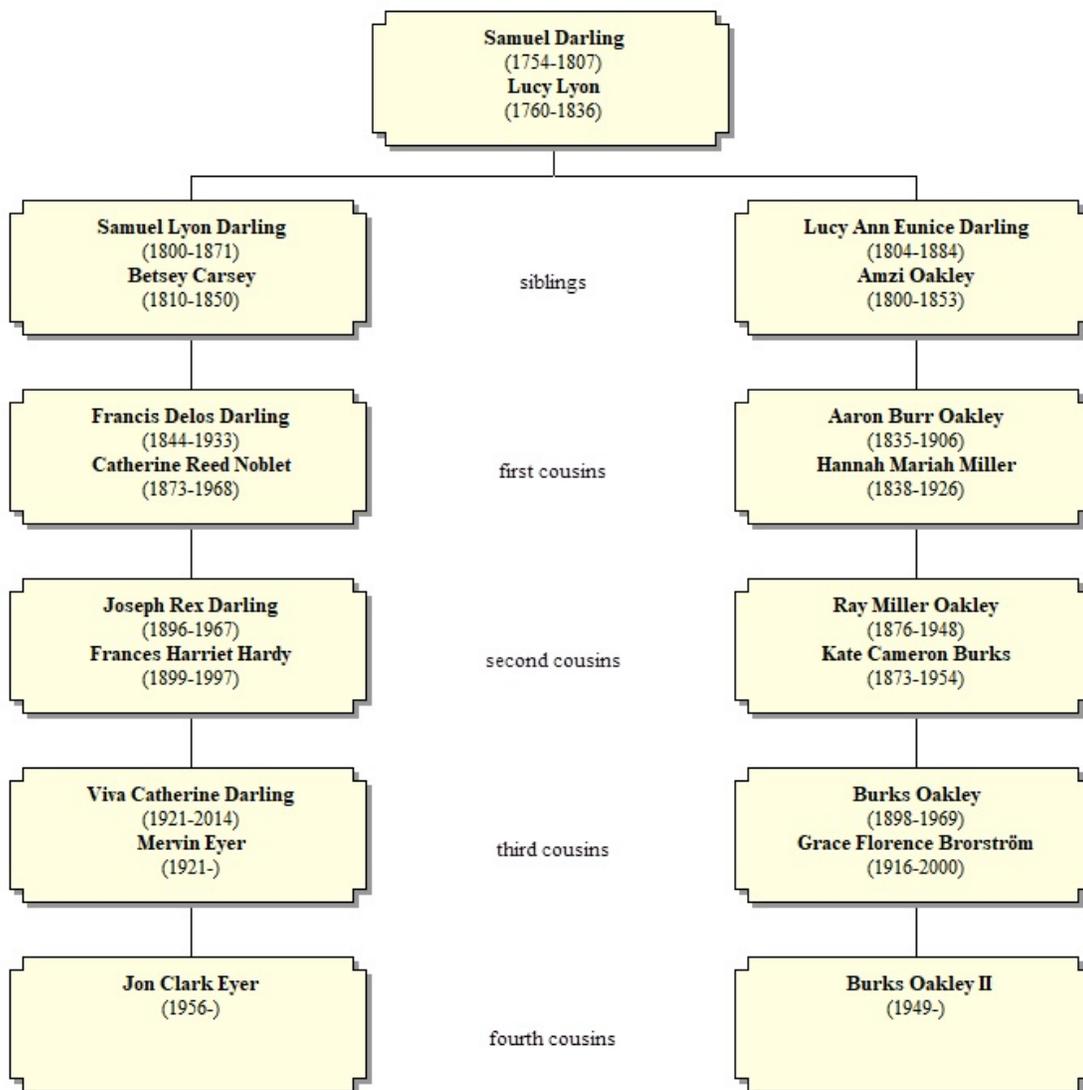
Direct ancestor surnames that appear in both **Jon Eyer's** tree and **Burks Oakley's** tree

Darling

1ST GEN	2ND GEN	3RD GEN
	Private	Jake Eyer
	Private	Olive Frayer
Private	Private	Joseph Rex Darling
	Viva Darling	Francis Hardy

Jon's mother was Viva Catherine Darling (1921-2014), and his maternal grandfather was Joseph Rex Darling (1896-1967). Although Jon's family tree doesn't go back any farther, Joseph Rex Darling appears in other family trees on the Ancestry.com website, and they all agree that Joseph's father was Francis Delos Darling (1844-1933). And Francis Delos Darling was David Darling's paternal grandfather!

My relationship to Jon Eyer is shown in the following chart:



This chart shows that Jon and I are fourth-cousins. At this point, I now have a shared DNA match with Dave Darling and with Jon Eyer, and all three of us are descended from Samuel Darling and his wife Lucy Lyon. I am really pleased to see this “three-way” match of the DNA and the genealogical record, since it helps to confirm our ***Darling*** family connection.

Another Darling DNA Match – with Madmelicious

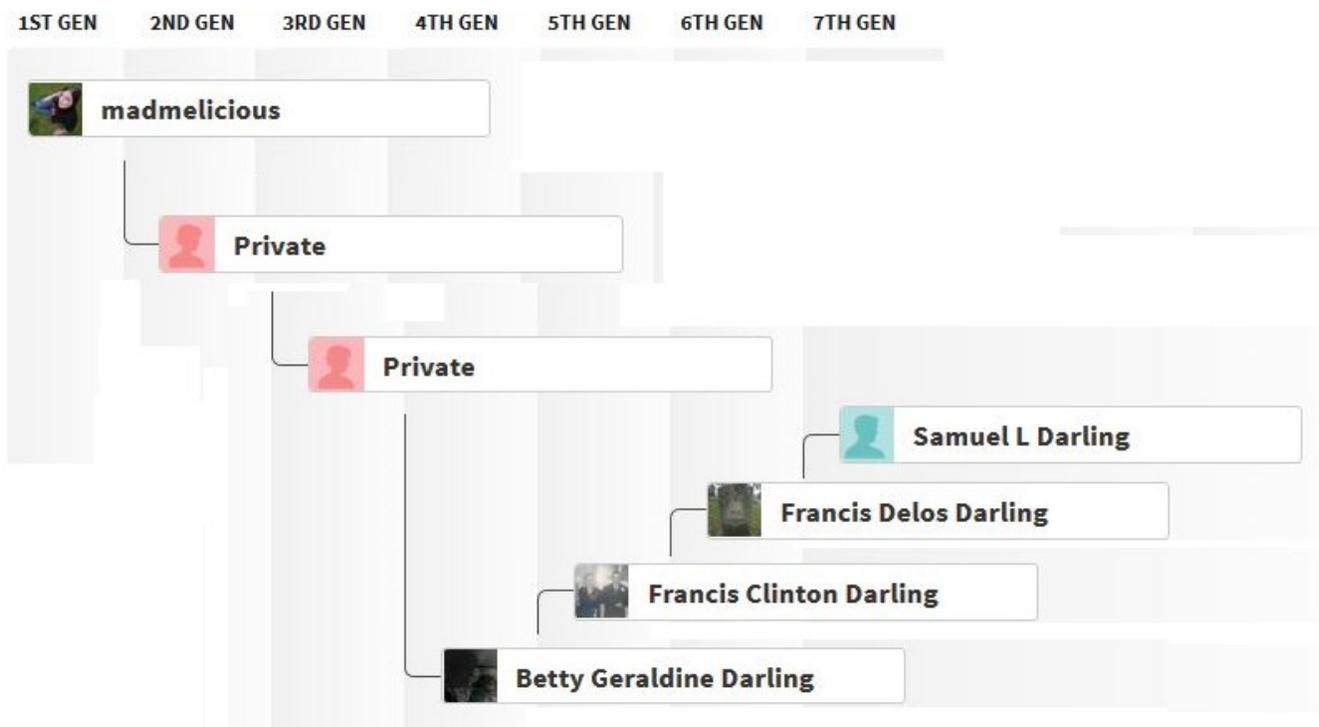
The software on the Ancestry.com website identified my “Shared Match” with Dave Darling and Jon Eyer, but it also found another individual who shares this same DNA match. This individual was a woman having the username of *madmelicious*:

The screenshot shows the 'Shared matches with 1820HOLMES' page on Ancestry.com. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Pedigree and Surnames', 'Shared Matches', and 'Map and Locations'. The main heading is 'Shared matches with 1820HOLMES'. Below this, there are three match categories: '2ND COUSIN', '4TH COUSIN', and '4TH COUSIN'. Each category lists a match with a star icon, a profile picture, a username, a possible range, a confidence level, and a 'View Match' button. The matches are: 1. **eidem67** (2ND COUSIN): Possible range: 1st - 2nd cousins, Confidence: Extremely High, 62 people, View Match. 2. **Jon Eyer** (4TH COUSIN): Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins, Confidence: Extremely High, No family tree, View Match. 3. **madmelicious** (4TH COUSIN): Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins, Confidence: Good, 1,897 people, View Match.

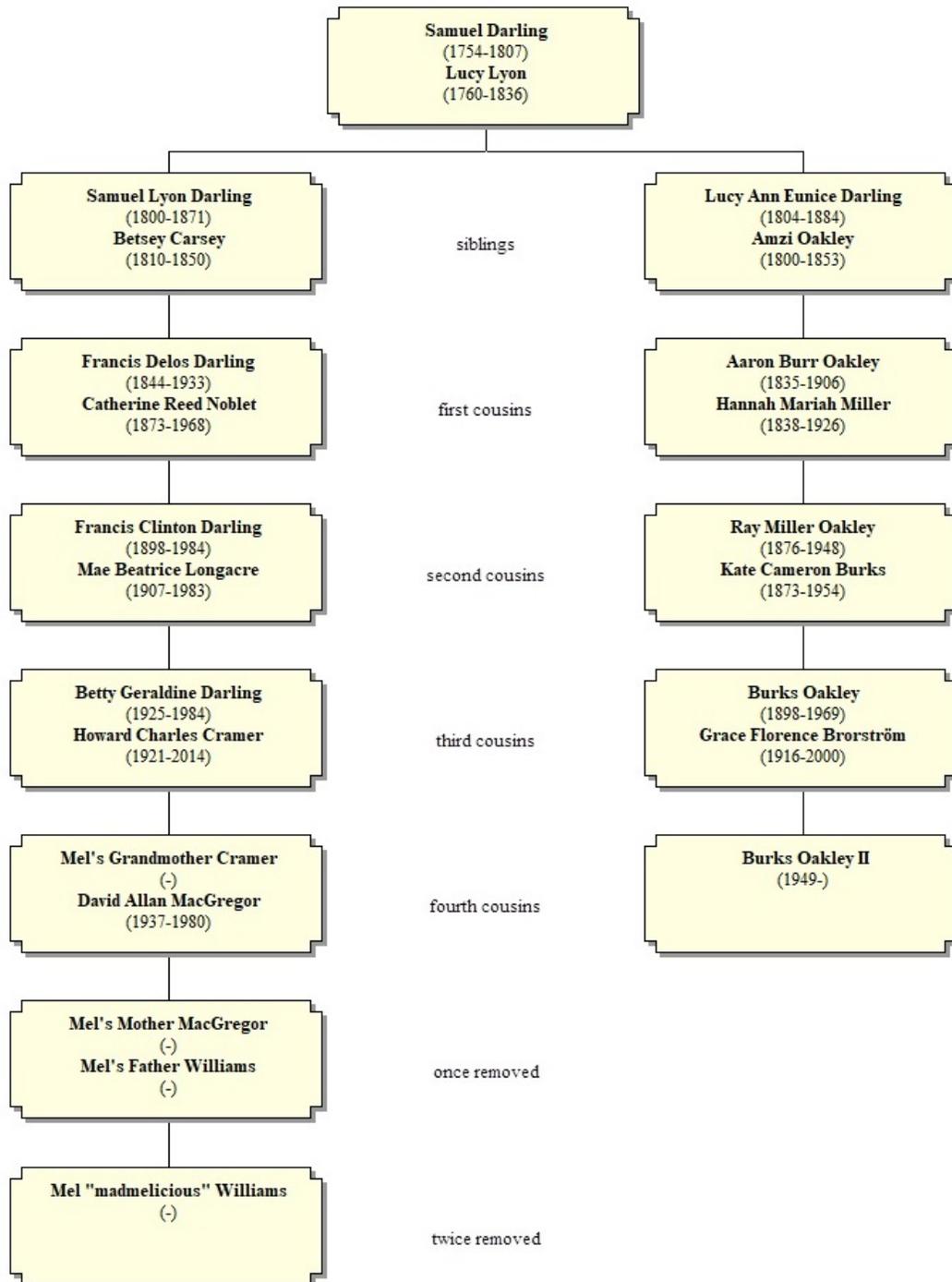
The size of my DNA match with *madmelicious* is 26.5 cM on a single DNA segment, as shown in the following screenshot:

The screenshot shows the profile for the user **madmelicious**. The profile includes a star icon, a profile picture, the username **madmelicious**, and a 'Send Message' button. Below the profile information, it shows the predicted relationship: **Predicted relationship: 4th Cousins**, with a possible range of 4th - 6th cousins and a confidence level of Good. A tooltip box titled 'Amount of Shared DNA' is overlaid on the page, showing: '26.5 centimorgans shared across 1 DNA segment' and a link to 'What does this mean?'. On the right side, there is an 'Ethnicity' section with the following details: **Regions:** Great Britain, Ireland/Scotland/Wales, Iberian Peninsula; **Trace Regions:** Europe East, Scandinavia, Europe West, Finland/Northwest Russia, Africa North, Caucasus, Middle East, Europe South, Native American.

This DNA match is smaller than my DNA matches with Dave Darling and Jon Eyer, so it is likely that *madmelicious* is a more distant relative. I examined her family tree on the Ancestry.com website, and I learned that her 3rd-great grandfather was Francis Delos Darling (1844-1933):



So indeed, *madmelicious* is a more distant relative of mine than Dave Darling or Jon Eyer. The following chart shows that we are fourth-cousins, twice-removed; that is, I am a fourth-cousin of her grandmother:



I subsequently corresponded with *madmelicious* and I learned that her name is Melissa “Mel” Williams (married name of Zimmerman); she lives in Omaha, Nebraska.

So now we have Dave Darling, Jon Eyer, Mel Zimmerman, and me – we all are descended from Samuel Darling and his wife Lucy Lyon, and according to Ancestry.com, we all share the same matching segment of DNA.

I should add that there are several others who show up as “Shared Matches” with **1820HOLMES** (Dave Darling), but they don’t have their family trees on the Ancestry.com website. While I can predict that these individuals are *Darling* relatives, I have no way to confirm this. But....

***susanlwiggins* – Another Shared Match with 1820HOLMES (Dave Darling)**

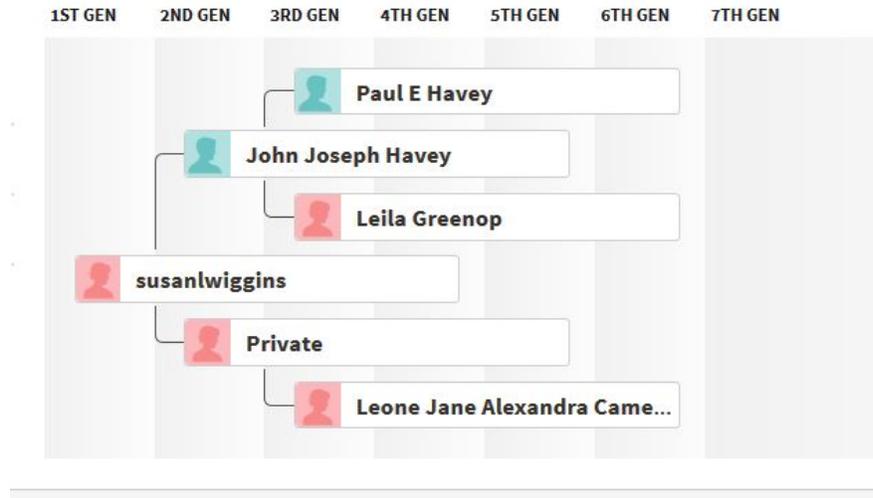
Another individual who shares the same DNA segment with **1820HOLMES** and me is a woman having the username of ***susanlwiggins***:

The screenshot shows the 'Shared matches with 1820HOLMES' interface. At the top, there are three tabs: 'Pedigree and Surnames', 'Shared Matches', and 'Map and Locations'. Below the tabs, the title 'Shared matches with 1820HOLMES' is displayed. A prominent orange button indicates the relationship as '4TH COUSIN'. The match profile for 'susanlwiggins' is shown, including a star icon, a profile picture placeholder, and the text 'Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins' and 'Confidence: Good' with a green progress bar. To the right, it says '6 people' and a green 'View Match' button.

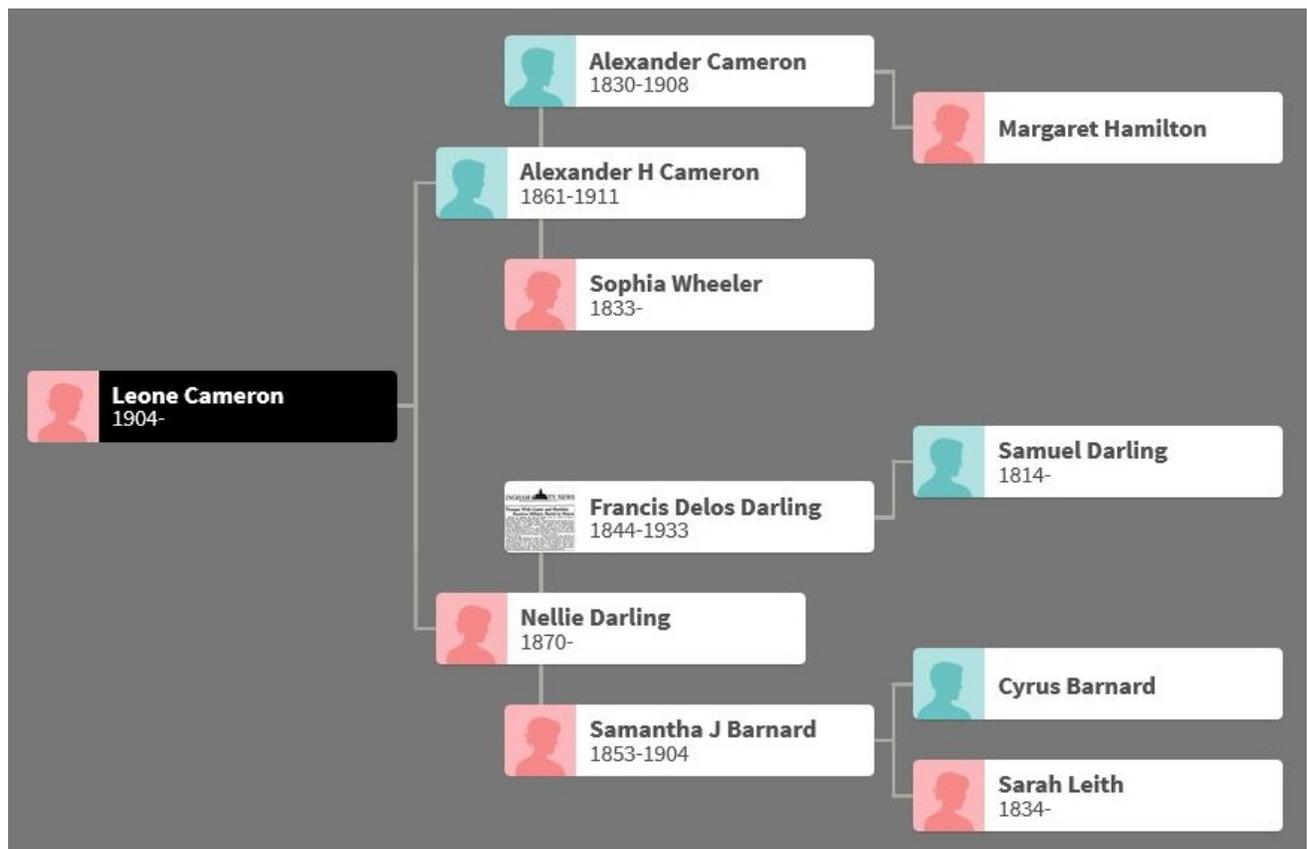
I subsequently learned that Susan’s maiden name was *Havey* and that her married name is *Wiggins*. Susan and I share 20.6 cM on a single DNA segment:

The screenshot shows the profile for 'susanlwiggins'. It includes a star icon, a profile picture placeholder, and the text 'Member since 2008, last logged in Sep 10, 2017'. A green 'Send Message' button is visible. The 'Predicted relationship: 4th Cousins' is shown with a possible range of '4th - 6th cousins' and a 'Confidence: Good' indicator. A tooltip titled 'Amount of Shared DNA' is overlaid, stating '20.6 centimorgans shared across 1 DNA segment'. On the right, the 'Ethnicity' section lists 'Regions: Great Britain, Europe West, Ireland/Scotland/Wales, Scandinavia' and 'Trace Regions: Europe East, Middle East, Europe South, Iberian Peninsula, Africa North'. There is also an 'Add note' button.

When I examined her family tree on the Ancestry.com website, I didn’t learn much, since there are only six people in her family tree:



Just for fun, I did some research, and lo and behold, I found that her maternal grandmother, Leone Jane Alexandra Cameron (1904-), was a daughter of Nellie Darling (1870-). And Nellie Darling was a daughter of Francis Delos Darling and a granddaughter of Samuel Darling:



Part of the Hardy-Darling Family tree on Ancestry.com

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/tree/37141479/family?cfpid=19882808424>

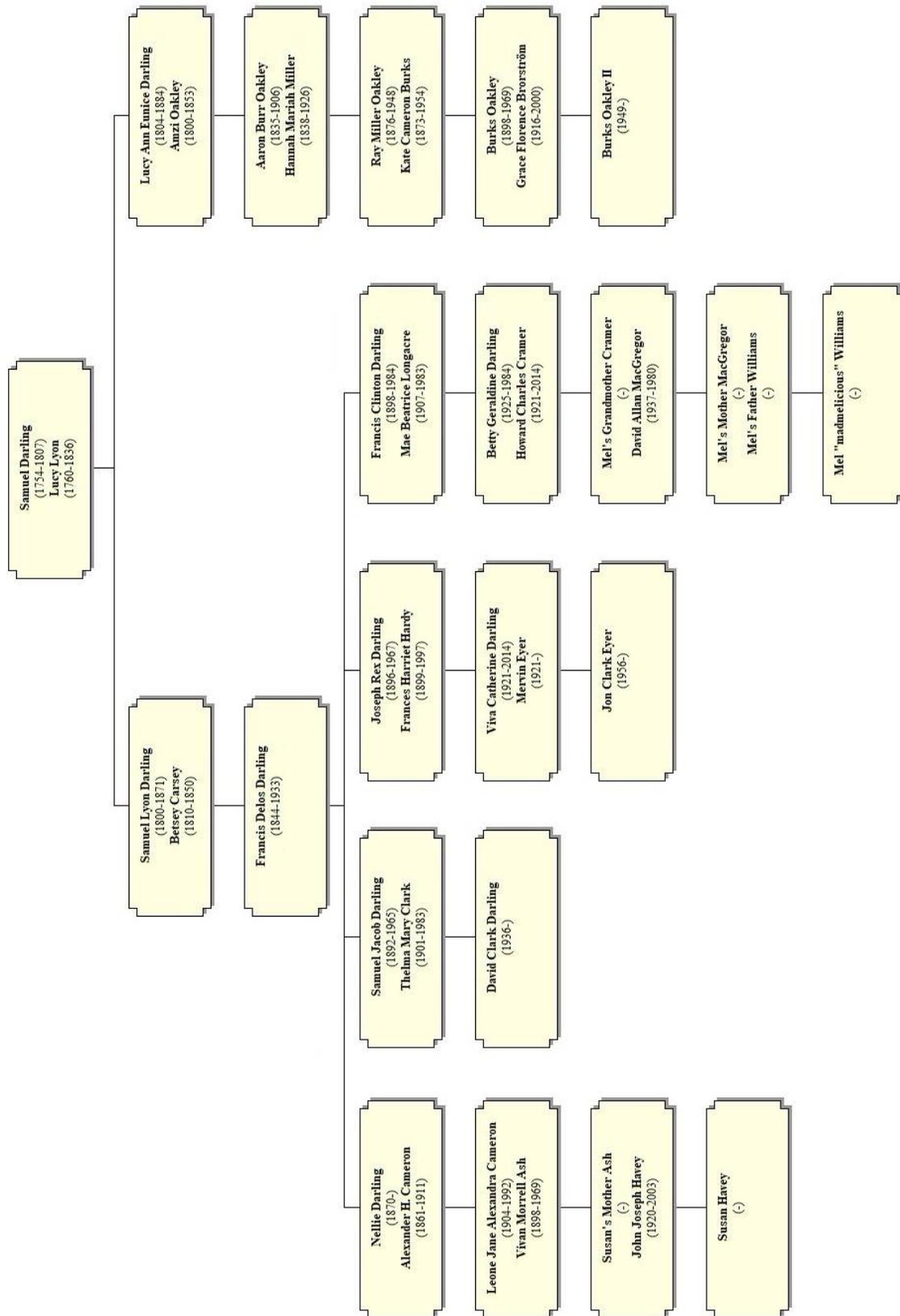
Summary of my Shared Matches with Dave Darling

Overall, I have a DNA match with Dave Darling (**1820HOLMES**), and Dave and I have “Shared Matches” with Jon Eyer, Mel Williams (**madmelicious**), and Susan Havey (**susanlwiggin**) – and also with my **Oakley** cousin Mark Eidem (**eidem67**).

The screenshot shows a DNA match interface with the following details:

- Navigation:** Pedigree and Surnames, Shared Matches, Map and Locations
- Section:** Shared matches with 1820HOLMES
- 2ND COUSIN:**
 - eidem67** (62 people): Possible range: 1st - 2nd cousins, Confidence: Extremely High
- 4TH COUSIN:**
 - Jon Eyer** (7 people): Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins, Confidence: Extremely High
 - madmelicious** (1,897 people): Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins, Confidence: Good
 - susanlwiggin** (6 people): Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins, Confidence: Good

We all have family trees that show we are descended from Samuel Darling (1754-1807) and his wife Lucy Lyon (1760-1836). The “Shared DNA Match” provides very strong support of these family trees. Here is a chart summarizing our genealogical connections:



Note that Francis Delos Darling (1844-1933) had two marriages; his daughter Nellie was from his first marriage to Samantha Jennie Barnard (1853-1904), and

his sons Samuel, Joseph, and Francis were from his second marriage to Catherine Reed Noblet (1873-1968).

At this point, I am quite satisfied that I have proven my connection to the ***Darling*** family, by way of my 2nd-great grandmother Lucy Ann Eunice Darling (1804-1884).

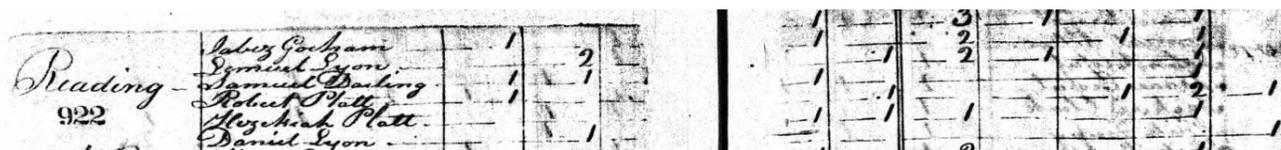
By extension, all of the “Quincy Oakleys” share this connection. Lucy Darling married Amzi Oakley (1800-1854), and their son Aaron Burr Oakley (1835-1906) was the first generation of the ***Oakley*** family to settle in Quincy, Illinois.

Lucy Darling - My Connection to the Darling Line

To learn more about my **Darling** ancestors, I next turned to the US Census records on the Ancestry.com website. In the 1800 US Census, Samuel Darling was living in Redding, Connecticut:

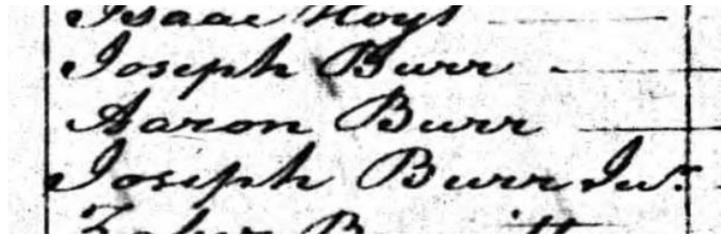
Samuel Darling in the 1800 United States Federal Census	
Name:	Samuel Darling
Home in 1800 (City, County, State):	Redding, Fairfield, Connecticut
Free White Persons - Males - Under 10:	1
Free White Persons - Males - 10 thru 15:	1
Free White Persons - Males - 45 and over:	1
Free White Persons - Females - Under 10:	2
Free White Persons - Females - 10 thru 15:	1
Free White Persons - Females - 26 thru 44:	1
Number of Household Members Under 16:	5
Number of Household Members Over 25:	2
Number of Household Members:	7

Here is the original record:



From the 1800 US Census, I learned that Samuel Darling (1754-1807) and his wife Lucy Lyon (1760-1836) had five children as of 1800.

As an aside, it is interesting to see that on the same page in the 1800 census were three families with the name of **Burr** - Joseph Burr, Aaron Burr, and Joseph Burr Jr.



My second-great grandfather was Amzi Oakley; HIS father was named Burr Oakley, and Burr's mother was Sarah Burr Oakley. As I have written in other chapters, there were a lot of **Burrs** living in Fairfield County, Connecticut, in (and after) colonial times.

In searching the 1810 US Census for **Darlings** living in Fairfield County, Connecticut, I found Lucy Darling as a head of the household in Newtown, Connecticut (recall that Samuel Darling died in 1807, leaving Lucy a widow):

Lucy Darling in the 1810 United States Federal Census	
Name:	Lucy Darling
Home in 1810 (City, County, State):	Newtown, Fairfield, Connecticut
Free White Persons - Females - Under 10:	1
Free White Persons - Females - 10 thru 15:	1
Free White Persons - Females - 45 and over :	1
Number of Household Members Under 16:	2
Number of Household Members Over 25:	1
Number of Household Members:	3

And Lucy had a daughter under 10 years of age living in the household – could that be my great-great grandmother Lucy Ann Eunice Darling?

Again, let me digress and show the original 1810 Census record for Lucy Darling:

1810 United States Federal Census for Lucy Darling

Name	Age	Sex	Color	Married	Free	Slave	Free	Slave	Free	Slave
Lucy Darling	25	F	W	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Joseph Burr	25	M	W	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Aaron Burr	2	M	W	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
James L Chapman	2	M	W	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ammon Burr	1	M	W	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Note that she was living near Joseph Burr, Aaron Burr, and Ammon Burr – lots of **Burrs** in Fairfield County, Connecticut, for sure!

I tried searching for Lucy Ann Eunice Darling on the Ancestry.com site, but the only hits I got didn't have anything about her parents (note that the first hit was from Amanda Dickerman VanNess' family tree):

Member Tree	Name	Parents
Our Family Branches Public Member Tree 1 source photos	Lucy Ann Eunice Darling Birth: 20 Oct 1804 - Fairfield Death: 10 Aug 1884 - Bethel, Fairfield, CT (Connecticut) Marriage: 6 Jan 1824 - Stratford, Fairfield, CT (Connecticut) Spouse: Amzi Oakley	F: (Name Unknown) M: (Name Unknown)
5-13 Dotties for Ancestry Public Member Tree 23 sources	Lucy Ann Eunice (Oakley) Darling Birth: 20 Oct 1804 - Fairfield Death: 10 Aug 1884 - Bethel, Fairfield, CT (Connecticut) Marriage: 6 Jan 1824 - Stratford, Fairfield, CT (Connecticut) Spouse: Amzi Arise Amire-Amzi Oakley	F: (Name Unknown) M: (Name Unknown)
STRUCK jul 2012 and related families Public Member Tree 20 sources	Lucy Ann Eunice (Oakley) Darling Birth: 20 Oct 1804 - Fairfield Death: 10 Aug 1884 - Bethel, Fairfield, CT (Connecticut) Spouse: Amzi Arise Amire-Amzi Oakley	F: (Name Unknown) M: (Name Unknown)

Amanda's family tree on the Ancestry.com website includes a photo of Lucy Ann Eunice Darling from Hal Oakley's book, *Selected Recollections of Allen Miller Oakley*:

All results for Lucy Darling

Results 1–20 of 2,503

RECORDS

CATEGORIES

Public Member Photos & Scanned Documents

PICTURES



PHOTO: Lucy Darling Oakley Portrait

CATEGORY: Portrait

DESCRIPTION: From the Selected Recollections
of Allen Miller Oakley

ATTACHED TO: Lucy Ann Eunice Darling
(1804-1884)

Finally, I found a number of postings from a woman named Suzanne to an online forum discussing **Darling** family genealogy; Suzanne's e-mail address was listed as darlingenealogy@verizon.net. I sent her an e-mail on 14 August 2015 asking about Lucy Ann Eunice Darling. She replied that same day:

“Lucy was the youngest child of Samuel Darling and Lucy (Lyon) Darling. I have the names of her four sisters and four brothers. I am not able to go into detail right now but will get back to you tomorrow. -- Suzanne Darling”

YES!!!! And note that Suzanne's last name is Darling.

The next day, Suzanne replied:

“Here are the children of Samuel Darling and Lucy Lyon Darling:

- Joseph Lyon born Aug. 1784 Weston, CT; died Nov. 1865 Odessa, NY; married Rachel Merwin. He was a prominent resident of Catharine, NY, serving as a county judge and superintendent of the poor.
- John baptized Apr. 1792 Redding CT
- Lois baptized 1792 Redding
- Mary baptized 1792 Redding; died Mar. 1796
- Jarvis b.1795 CT; d. Dec. 1853 Catharine, NY; two daughters. He was a physician.
- Polly Elmira baptized Apr. 1796 Redding
- Samuel Lyon b. 1800 Weston, CT; d. Mar. 1871 at the Tioga Co. Home in Wellsboro, PA; had several children by two wives
- Lucinda b.19 Oct. 1804; baptized 2 Dec. 1804 Redding

- Lucy b.19 Oct. 1804; baptized 2 Dec. 1804 Redding”

She also wrote:

“I thought that Lucy and Lucinda could be the same person, but the *History and Genealogy of the Families of Old Fairfield* states that they were twins.”

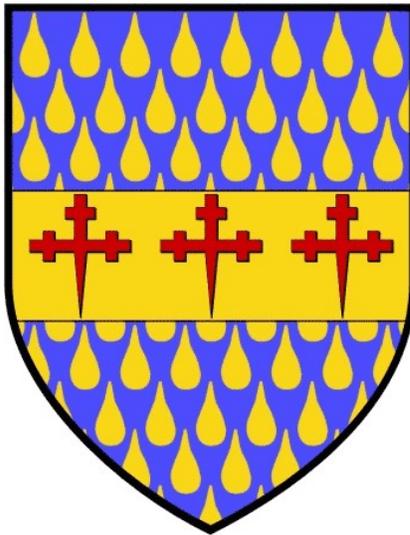
In other chapters of my Quincy Oakley family genealogy, I have mentioned the *Old Fairfield* book several times when writing about the *Oakley* and *Burr* families. This three-volume set was compiled and edited by Donald Lines Jacobus, for the Eunice Dennie Burr Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, Fairfield, Connecticut, and was published between 1930 and 1932. It is available on the genealogy website operated by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.³ And now I learn from Suzanne Darling that this book also mentions my great-great grandmother, Lucy Ann Eunice Darling! And that Lucy had a twin sister!!

Sure enough, I found multiple mentions of my Darling ancestors in the *Old Fairfield* book, including this footnote on p. 275 of Volume 3:

* Children of Samuel Darling, bapt. Trinity Church: Lois, John, and Mary, bapt. 6 Apr. 1792; Jarvis and Polly Elmira, bapt. 16 Apr. 1796; Lucy and Lucinda (twins), bapt. 2 Dec. 1804. Of these, Mary was bur. 27 Mar. 1796.

With all this as background, I now will move on to trace my Darling Family heritage.

³ <https://familysearch.org/search/catalog/43068?availability=Family%20History%20Library>



Darling

The Darling Family Crest (Coat of Arms)

The Darling Branch of Our Family Tree

Generation 0

George Darling Sr.⁴ was born in 1584 in Edinburgh, Midlothian, Scotland. He died before 1625 in Lasswade Parish, Dalkeith Presbytery, Edinburgh, Midlothian, Scotland. He is buried in graveyard at the Edinburgh Old Church, Midlothian, Scotland.

George Darling married Isabel Muckle. Isabel was born in 1588 in Lasswade, Midlothian, Scotland, and died in 1652 in Lasswade, Midlothian, Scotland.

George Darling Sr. and his wife Isabel Muckle Darling had the following five children (all of whom were born in Lasswade, Midlothian, Scotland):

1. Charles Darling 1610 – 1674
2. George Darling Jr. 16 July 1614 – 1693 (my ancestor)
3. Agnes Darling 1617 – 1681
4. Charlotte Darling 1619 – 1683
5. Beatrice Darling 1623 – 1687

⁴ <http://person.ancestry.com/tree/25407864/person/13557948633/facts>

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Generation 1

George Darling Jr.⁵ was born on 16 July 1614 in East Lothian, Scotland. He “emigrated” from Scotland in 1650, settling in Massachusetts – thus he was the first generation of ***Darlings*** to live in America. He died on 13 September 1693 in Salem, Essex County, Massachusetts.

The story of how George Darling Jr. got to America is fascinating and takes several pages to tell – so I’m putting it in separate section at the end of this narrative. But it is well worth reading!! To give you a little preview, Suzanne Darling sent me an e-mail note on 15 August 2015 with “I am assuming that you know that your ***Darling*** line goes back to George, the Scottish prisoner.”

George Darling Jr. married Katherine Gridley. Katherine was born in 1630 in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts. She died on 12 April 1693 in Salem, Essex County, Massachusetts. Her family must have been one of the earliest to settle in Massachusetts, given that she was born in Boston in 1630.

George Darling Jr. and his wife Katherine Gridley Darling had a large number of children:⁶

1. John Darling 1658–1719 (my ancestor)
2. Daniel Darling 1664–1727
3. Sarah Darling 1665–1744
4. George Darling 1666–1730
5. Joseph Darling 1667–1690
6. Margaret Darling 1668–1693
7. Rebecca Darling 1669–
8. Hannah Darling 1670–1724
9. Benjamin Darling 1673–1709
10. Henry Darling 1676–1719

Since George Darling Jr. was born in 1614 in Scotland, he was in his early 60’s when the last of his children were born.

⁵ <http://person.ancestry.com/tree/25407864/person/13557823620/facts>

⁶ <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/83998565/person/40494953148/facts?ssrc=>

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Generation 2

John Darling⁷ was born on 31 March 1657 in Lynn, Essex County, Massachusetts. He died on 11 February 1719 in Fairfield, Fairfield County, Connecticut, after living quite a life!

On 4 February 1679, John Darling married Elizabeth Muzzy in Marblehead, Essex County, Massachusetts. Elizabeth was born in 1661 and died in 1681 at the age of 19 or 20. They had a daughter, Elizabeth Darling (1679–1710).

From Lisa Beth Darling, redwita@yahoo.com [edited for clarity]:

“From my information ... Elizabeth Muzzy bore John Darling one child, Elizabeth, during the short time they were married. She died in 1681 shortly after giving birth. After this John Darling, took up Naomi Flanders for a while, and they had a son, John Darling Jr. John and Naomi were never married. In 1684, John Darling was arrested for fornication with a woman named Sarah Paul; this more or less ‘shamed’ him out of town and he moved to the Fairfield, Connecticut, area where he married, lastly, Elizabeth Beers. He left his young daughter Elizabeth with his parents, George and Katherine, to raise and was cited for not paying child support to either his son John Jr. or his daughter Elizabeth.”

In 1687, John Darling married Elizabeth Beers in Fairfield, Fairfield County, Connecticut. Elizabeth was born in 1664 in Fairfield, Connecticut, and she died on 11 February 1718 in Fairfield, Connecticut. Incidentally, her family tree can be traced to the year 1460 in Kent, England.

[Note: I have included links to my ancestors in family trees on the Ancestry.com website – but often this information is incomplete or factually incorrect. I’ve tried to find the best links, but keep in mind that some family trees on the Ancestry.com website have conflicting information.]

John Darling and his wife Elizabeth Beers Darling had six children:

1. Hannah Darling 1689–1774
2. Martha Darling 1692–1773
3. John Darling 1694–1760

⁷ <http://person.ancestry.com/tree/25407864/person/13557714163/facts>

4. James Darling 1698-1700
5. Benjamin Darling 1701-1794
6. Joseph Darling 1701-1779 (my ancestor)

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Generation 3

Joseph Darling⁸ was born on 29 June 1701 in Greenfield, Fairfield County, Connecticut. He died on 23 September 1779 in Redding, Fairfield County, Connecticut.

Joseph Darling married Rachel Bulkley [also spelled Bulkeley]. Rachel was born on 16 March 1707 in Fairfield, Fairfield County, Connecticut, and she died in 1753 in Redding, Fairfield County, Connecticut.

Joseph Darling and his wife Rachel Bulkley Darling had nine children:

1. Rachel Darling 1729-
2. Elizabeth Darling 1730-
3. Joseph Darling 1730-1780
4. Eunice Darling 1736-
5. Benjamin Darling 1738-1820
6. Martha Darling 1741-
7. Jonathan Darling 1743-1832
8. Mary Darling 1749-1773
9. Samuel Darling 1754-1807 -- my ancestor

Here is the entry for Joseph Darling in the *Old Fairfield*⁹ book from 1932:

⁸ <http://person.ancestry.com/tree/25407864/person/13557679777/facts>

⁹ History and Genealogy of the Families of Old Fairfield, compiled and edited by Donald Lines Jacobus, published by Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor, 1930-1932, Vol. 3, p. 274-5

Darling, Joseph, s. of John [Vol. I, p. 179].

Bapt. 29 June 1701.

Children, three bapt. Greenfield, four Redding:

Rachel, b. 28 Jan., bapt. 2 Feb. 1728/9; m. 10 Dec. 1746, Benjamin Sturgis.

Hannah, bapt. 25 July 1731.

Grace, bapt. 6 Jan. 1733/4.

Eunice, bapt. 25 Jan. 1736; m. 25 May 1757, Joseph Dikeman.

Benjamin, bapt. 15 Apr. 1738; ?m. 6 Nov. 1777, Mary Chapman; widow of Daniel Chapman, née Andrews.*

Martha, bapt. 11 Jan. 1741;† m. at Redding, 29 May 1778, Austin Baxter.

Joseph, bapt. 17 Oct. 1743, d. at Ridgefield in 1780; will 3 Mar., proved 13 May 1780, named wife Mary, sons Samuel, John, and Joseph, daus. Elizabeth, Rachel, and Mehitabel Darling; wife and Capt. Ichabod Doolittle, Exec'rs. Samuel chose Daniel Rockwell for guardian, and John and Elizabeth chose Elias Reed, 1787; Rachel chose Samuel Darling, 1788.‡

THE FAMILIES OF OLD FAIRFIELD 275

Mary, bapt. 7 May 1749, d. at Redding, 5 Nov. 1773 ae. 24 yrs. 7 mos. (g. s.); m. 12 Mar. 1767, Joseph Meeker.

? Samuel, b. abt. 1754, bur. 1 Sept. 1807 ae. 53 (Trinity Church rec.).*

Note the ? in front of Samuel's entry. According to this version of the family tree, Samuel's mother Rachel Bulkley was born in 1707, and Samuel was born in 1754, so she would have been 47 years old when he was born.

Suzanne Darling (who seems to be an authority on Darling genealogy) sent me an e-mail on 15 August 2015 with the following:

"I think that you and I may have different parentages for Samuel born 1754. You mention that he had a sister named Eunice. That would make him the son of Joseph and Rachel (Bulkley) Darling. I realize that this has been accepted by many who have researched the Darling name. However, Joseph Darling sold and bequeathed land to three sons, Benjamin, Joseph and Jonathan, and there is never any mention of a son named Samuel. Additionally, his wife, Rachel, was born in 1707 and would have been 47 when Samuel was born. It is possible but rather unlikely since her last child, Mary was baptized in 1749. I have concluded that Samuel was the son of Jabez Darling, who was the son of Joseph's brother John."

So in interest of full disclosure, there might be an additional generation in our branch of the Darling family tree. But in either case, we still go back to John Darling (Generation 2, above).

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Generation 4

Samuel Darling¹⁰ was born in 1754 in Redding, Fairfield County, Connecticut. He married Lucy Lyon, who was born about 1760.

Samuel Darling and his family appeared in the 1790 US Census living in Weston, Fairfield County, Connecticut. They appeared in the 1800 US Census living in Redding, Fairfield County, Connecticut.

Samuel Darling and his wife, Lucy Lyon Darling, had nine children:

1. Joseph Lyon Darling – born August 1784, Weston, Connecticut; died November 1865 in Odessa, New York; married Rachel Merwin. He was a prominent resident of Catharine, New York, serving as a county judge and superintendent of the poor.
2. John – baptized April 1792, Redding, Connecticut
3. Lois – baptized 1792, Redding, Connecticut
4. Mary – baptized 1792, Redding, Connecticut; died March 1796
5. Jarvis – born 1795 in Connecticut; died December 1853 in Catharine, New York; he had two daughters; he was a physician.
6. Polly Elmira – baptized April 1796, Redding, Connecticut
7. Samuel Lyon – born 1800, Weston, Connecticut; died March 1871 at the Tioga County Home in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania; had several children by two wives.
8. Lucinda – born 9 October 1804; baptized 2 December 1804, Redding, Connecticut
9. Lucy – born 9 October 1804; baptized 2 December 1804, Redding, Connecticut (my ancestor)

Samuel Darling died in August 1807. His widow, Lucy Lyon Darling, appeared in the 1810 US Census as a head of the household in Newtown, Connecticut.

¹⁰ <http://person.ancestry.com/tree/25407864/person/13525692476/facts>

Lucy Darling in the 1810 United States Federal Census

Name:	Lucy Darling
Home in 1810 (City, County, State):	Newtown, Fairfield, Connecticut
Free White Persons - Females - Under 10:	1
Free White Persons - Females - 10 thru 15:	1
Free White Persons - Females - 45 and over:	1
:	:
Number of Household Members Under 16:	2
Number of Household Members Over 25:	1
Number of Household Members:	3

Lucy Darling had a daughter under 10 years of age living in the household – who we now know was my great-great grandmother Lucy Ann Eunice Darling. But what happened to her twin, Lucinda?

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Generation 5

Lucy Ann Eunice Darling¹¹ was born on 19 October 1804 in Easton, Fairfield County, Connecticut. She married Amzi Oakley on 6 January 1824 in Stratford, Fairfield County, Connecticut. She died on 10 August 1884 in Bethel, Fairfield County, Connecticut, at the age of 79.

Lucy Ann Eunice Darling Oakley and her husband Amzi Oakley had the following children:

1. William Burr Oakley (born 1825)
2. Sarah Maria Oakley (born 1827)
3. Edwin Curtis Oakley (born 1830)
4. Mary Elizabeth Oakley (born 1833)
5. Aaron Burr Oakley (born 1835) – my ancestor
6. Ann Oakley (born 1838)
7. Martha Louisa Oakley (born 1844)

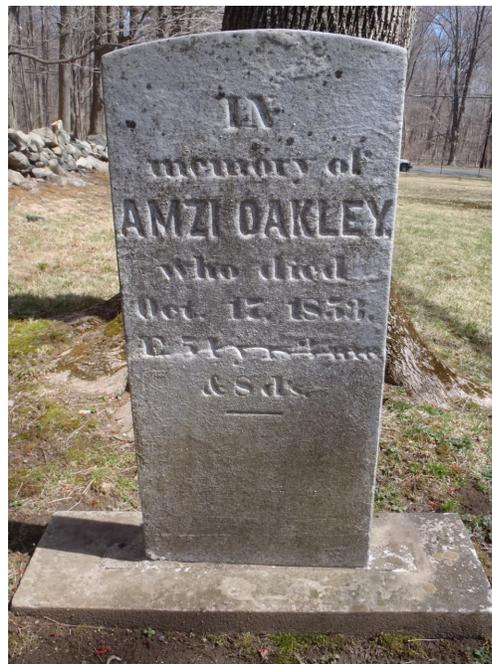
¹¹ <http://person.ancestry.com/tree/2833674/person/6716645584/facts>

The family was living in Redding, Connecticut, in 1840. The 1840 US Census listed 1 male age 40-49 (Amzi), 1 female age 30-39 (Lucy), 1 male age 5-9 (Aaron Burr Oakley), 2 males age 10-14 (William Burr Oakley and Edwin Curtis Oakley), 1 female under age 5 (Ann Oakley), 1 female age 5-9 (Mary Elizabeth Oakley).

The family still was in Redding, Connecticut, for the 1850 US Census. Household members included Amzi (age 51), Lucy (age 45), Aaron Burr Oakley (age 14), Ann Oakley (age 12), and Martha Oakley (age 5). Amzi's occupation was listed as Cooper [a maker or repairer of casks and barrels].

Amzi Oakley died at age 54 of Typhoid Fever on 17 (or 12) October 1853 in Redding, Fairfield County, Connecticut.

Sometime around 1960, my parents and I went to Redding, Connecticut, and found Amzi's gravestone in the Isaac Hamilton Cemetery. It was broken in half, and my father hired someone to repair it. Here is a photo of the repaired gravestone:¹²



After Amzi died in 1853, his widow Lucy Ann Eunice Darling Oakley lived with her younger daughters. Recall that their son Aaron Burr Oakley moved west and lived with his wife Hannah Mariah Miller Oakley in Mechanicsville, Cedar County, Iowa. Well, Aaron's sister, Martha, also moved to Mechanicsville. In the 1870 US Census, Lucy Oakley (age 65) was living in Mechanicsville with her daughter, Martha (age 25), and Martha's husband H.O. Mitchel (age 28). In the 1880 US

¹² <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=16312244>

Census, Lucy Oakley (age 75) appeared in Lowden, Cedar County, Iowa, living with daughter Ann and Ann's husband M.L. Banks. I note that Lowden, Iowa, is 18 miles east of Mechanicsville, Iowa, on US 30. Ray Miller Oakley was born in Mechanicsville in 1876, so my guess is that Grandmother Lucy Darling Oakley saw her little grandson Ray Oakley somewhere in Cedar County, Iowa.

Lucy Oakley died on 10 August 1884 in Bethel, Fairfield County, Connecticut. According to her death certificate, she was age 79 years, 9 months, 21 days old; widowed; husband's name Amzi Oakley; birthplace Easton, Connecticut; maiden name Lucy Darling.

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Generation 6

Aaron Burr Oakley was born on 8 August 1835, in Redding, Fairfield County, Connecticut. Sometime in the mid-1850's, he moved west to Illinois. He originally went to school (perhaps to study law) in Mt. Morris, Illinois.

Aaron Burr Oakley married Hannah Mariah Miller on 6 April 1858 in Beloit, Wisconsin (just north of Rockford, Illinois).

Aaron and Hannah appear in the 1860 US Census living in Taylor Township, Ogle County, Illinois (south of Rockford, Illinois). At the time, they were living in the household of one of Hannah's sisters, along with one of Hannah's brothers.

In the spring of 1861, Aaron and Hannah moved to Mechanicsville, Cedar County, Iowa. Aaron was a school teacher, a school principal, the superintendent of schools for Cedar County, and an attorney. The 1870 US Census lists him as a drugstore clerk (was that a joke?). At various times, he was the Recorder, the Assessor, and a Trustee of the town of Mechanicsville. In the spring of 1877, Aaron moved to Alamosa, Iowa (~20 miles north of Mechanicsville) and practiced law with the firm of Oakley and Jamison.

Aaron was a Mason, and for a number of years was Secretary of Patmos Masonic Lodge #155 in Mechanicsville, Iowa.

In the 1880 US Census, Aaron and Hannah were living in Rockford, Illinois, with their four-year-old son, Ray Miller Oakley. Aaron's profession was listed as "Editor" – presumably with the Rockford Register newspaper (owned in part by his brother-in-law, Charles L. Miller).

From 1885 until 1891, Aaron and Hannah, along with their son Ray, homesteaded on 160 acres of land in Chadron, Nebraska (in the far northwest corner of the panhandle of Nebraska – near South Dakota and Wyoming). This land was the south-east quarter of Section 23 in Township 33 north of Range 49 west of the sixth principal meridian, several miles southwest of Chadron.

In 1891 or 1892, the family moved to Quincy, Illinois, where Hannah's brother Charles L. Miller, and several of Hannah's cousins, had just purchased the *Quincy Daily Herald*.

Aaron Burr Oakley and his wife Hannah Mariah Miller Oakley had the following children:

1. Charles William Oakley – born 13 January 1866, died 27 January 1866; Mechanicsville, Cedar County, Iowa
2. Ray Miller Oakley – born 2 April 1876, Mechanicsville, Cedar County, Iowa

Aaron Burr Oakley was the first generation of Oakleys to work at the Quincy Herald. He died in Quincy, Illinois, on 22 April 1906. His wife, Hannah, died in Quincy, Illinois, on 19 July 1926.

Aaron and Hannah are buried in Cedar Bluff Cemetery in Rockford, Illinois, in the Miller plot (along with Hannah's mother Jane Kershaw Wells Miller and Hannah's brother Charles L. Miller).

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Generation 7

Ray Miller Oakley

Ray Miller Oakley. Ray was born on 2 April 1876 in Mechanicsville, Cedar County, Iowa. Even though Mechanicsville is in eastern Iowa, it actually is just *EAST* of Quincy, Illinois. Ray moved to Quincy, Illinois, in 1891 to work for the *Quincy Herald* newspaper. He died on 12 May 1948 and is buried in Woodland Cemetery in Quincy, Illinois.

Ray married Kate Cameron Burks on 7 April 1897 in Quincy, Illinois. She was born on 23 October 1873 in Burlington, Iowa. She died in Quincy, Illinois, on 19 January 1954 and is buried in Woodland Cemetery in Quincy, Illinois.

Ray Miller Oakley and his wife Kate Cameron Burks Oakley had the following children:

1. Burks Oakley (born 4 June 1898)
2. Elisabeth Oakley (born 15 December 1900)
3. William Burr Oakley (born 15 August 1903)
4. Allen Miller Oakley (born 4 October 1907)
5. Thomas Crawford Oakley (born 11 October 1909)

Carrying on the Oakley/Burr family tradition, Ray M. Oakley and Kate Burks Oakley named their first-born son Burks Oakley.

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Generation 8

Burks Oakley, Elisabeth Oakley, William Burr Oakley, Allen Miller Oakley, Thomas Crawford Oakley

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Generation 9

Burks Oakley II, T.A., Tony, David, Susan Burks, Ann, Mary Cameron, and William Henry "Huck".

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Generation 10

Hal, Peter, Tommy, Ralph, Mary, Dave, Mike, Tim, Susie, Cathy, Mark, David, Andrew, Christina, Amy, etc.

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Generation 11

Ben, Abigail, Allen, Allison, Sullivan, Tom-Ben-Jack, Katie, Meghan, Anna Ray, Laura, David, Josh, Cassie, Allie, Jake, Clayton, Cameron, Carlee, Oakley, Brittany, David, Mary, Renae, Kacy Lynne, Sadie, Danny, Retta, etc.

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Generation 12

Olivia, Sterling, William Daniel, Harper, Hannah, Paul, Charlie, etc.

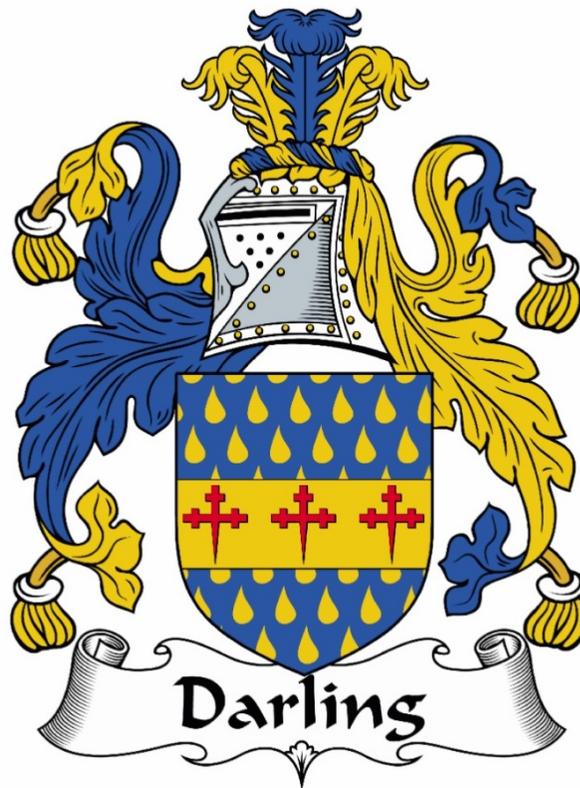
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How awesome that I now have tracked another branch of our family that was in America in colonial times. The youngest members of our **Oakley** family are the 12th generation of **Oakley-Darlings** to live in America. And we can track the **Darling** family in Scotland for another generation before that.

Recall that one of my father's hobbies was genealogy – and having confirmed this branch of our family tree based on a DNA match, wouldn't my father (who was born in 1898) be amazed!!!

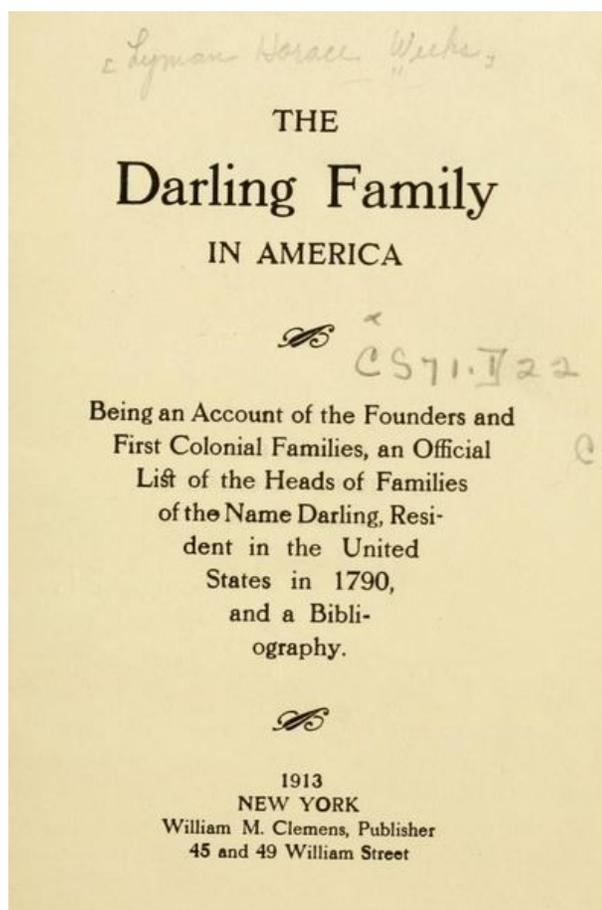
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Here is another version of the **Darling** family crest (aka Coat of Arms):



Our Darling Ancestors – Like the Oakleys and the Burrs

I find it really amazing that in colonial times, the ***Darling*** family was such a prominent family in Massachusetts and Connecticut. And, like my ancestors in the ***Oakley*** and ***Burr*** families, the ***Darlings*** served in the colonial army in the Revolutionary War. The ***Darling*** family was showcased in a book published in 1913, ***The Darling family in America : being an account of the founders and first colonial families, an official list of the heads of families of the name Darling, resident in the United States in 1790, and a bibliography***, by Lyman Horace Weeks and William Montgomery Clemens. This book is available on the Archive.org website:¹³



And it is amazing that so many of our ***Oakley***, ***Burr***, and ***Darling*** ancestors crossed paths in Fairfield County, Connecticut – as detailed in the ***Old Fairfield*** book¹⁴.

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¹³ <https://archive.org/details/darlingfamilyina00week>

¹⁴ <https://familysearch.org/search/catalog/43068?availability=Family%20History%20Library>

How George Darling Came to America ^{15 16 17}

George Darling Jr. (my “Generation 1” – the first generation of ***Darlings*** to live in America) was born in 1614 Midlothian region of Scotland. Fast forward until he was in his mid-30’s – and...

The Battle of Dunbar¹⁸ on 3 September 1650 was a battle of the Third English Civil War. The English Parliamentarian forces under Oliver Cromwell defeated a Scottish army that was loyal to King Charles II, who had been proclaimed King of Scots on 5 February 1649.



“Cromwell at Dunbar”, by Andrew Carrick Gow (1885)

Cromwell claimed that 3,000 Scots were killed. On the other hand, Sir James Balfour, a senior officer with the Scottish army, noted in his journal that there were “800 or 900 killed”. There is similar disagreement about the number of Scottish prisoners taken: Cromwell claimed that there were 10,000, while the English Royalist leader, Sir Edward Walker put the number at 6,000, of which 1,000 sick and wounded men were quickly released. The more conservative estimates of the Scottish casualties are borne out by the fact that, the day after the battle, Leslie retreated to Stirling with some 4,000-5,000 of his remaining troops.

¹⁵ Information obtained from <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~darlingfamilies/george.htm>

¹⁶ <http://www.geni.com/projects/Scots-Prisoners-and-their-Relocation-to-the-Colonies-1650-1654/3465>

¹⁷ <http://scottishprisonersofwar.com/2014/10/24/new-timeline-of-spows-from-the-battle-of-dunbar-to-charlestown-ma/>

¹⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Dunbar_%281650%29

At any rate, ***George Darling Jr. was one of the Scots who were captured.*** After being captured, the Scottish prisoners were marched from Durham to Newcastle. They were given very little to eat. Between the march and lack of food, many died along the way. Disease was rampant. Some men were shot because they either could not or would not march.

The surviving Scots presented the English with a problem. Holding such a large number of prisoners could be costly. However, letting them go could prove to be very dangerous. One week after the battle, the Council of State, which was England's governing body, received several petitions from persons who wished to transport the Scots overseas. On 16 September, the Council secretary was ordered to confer with the petitioners, to terms under which they would undertake the project. John Becx and Joshua Foote conferred with their partners, the Undertakers of the Saugus Iron Works (in Massachusetts). Three days later, the Council secretary was directed to deliver 150 prisoners to New England, with conditions that these men were well and sound and free of wounds.

By October 23rd, the Council was ordered to stop the project until it was confirmed that the Scots were not being sent anywhere where they could be dangerous. So the Scots waited in the Thames, for passage to New England.



Setting sail for Boston, Massachusetts, from Gravesend on the ship Unity.¹⁹

November 11th, the Council issued sailing orders to the sailing ship Unity. There were 150 Scots who were sent to New England on the Unity – ***including George***

¹⁹ <http://scottishprisonersofwar.com/2014/10/24/new-timeline-of-spows-from-the-battle-of-dunbar-to-charlestown-ma/>

Darling Jr. The trip from London to Boston normally took six weeks and was mostly likely unpleasant.

The conditions in which Becx and Foote took the Scots was a commercial venture. They planned to sell each man for between 20 and 30 pounds, which would have made them a considerable profit, since they only paid five pounds for each man. They arrived in Boston in December.

- 15 or 20 of the men went to Richard Leader for services at his sawmill, at Berwick, on the Pascataqua River, in Maine.
- 62 went to John Giffard, the agent for the Undertakers of The Iron Works of Lynn (Saugus), in Massachusetts.
- The remainder were sold to local residents.
- The term of service for all of them was seven years.

However, by the time the Scots arrived in Boston, they were in poor health. Payment for medical care and medicine as well as food was needed. Sixty-one of the men did make it to the Iron Works.

The Scots were used for many jobs.

- John Touish had the job of taking stock of ore and making charcoal. He was to be sure that each load was of full measure.
- James Mackall, John Mackshane, and Thomas Tower became forge hands under John Vinton, John Turner Jr., Henry Leonard and Quenten Prey.
- John Clark was taught the trade of blacksmith by Samuel Hart.
- John Stewart was employed by John Giffard, as a servant, for a two-year period, in his house, before being put out for blacksmithing.
- James Gourdan became a miner.
- Daniel Salmon employed some of the Scots on his company farm, where they kept the community cattle.

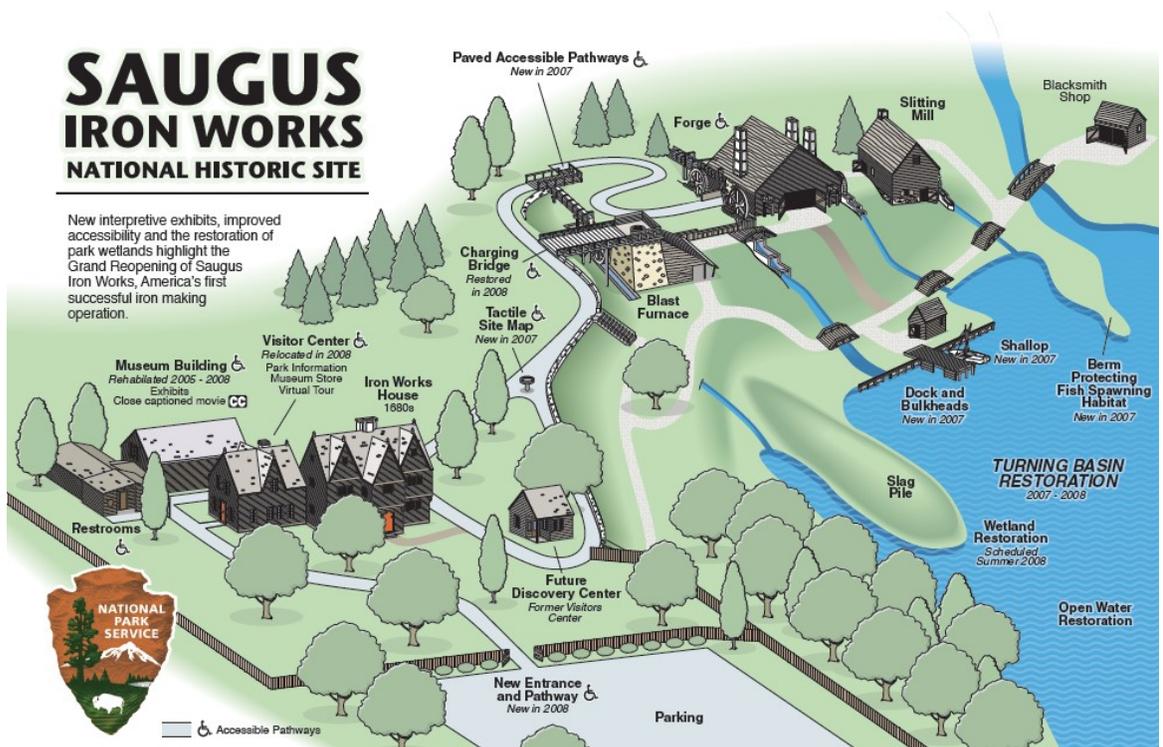
Most of the Scots were hired out to other employers and went to colliers. Since charcoal was expensive to make, the company employed most of the Scots full-time as woodcutters to supply the colliers.

The Iron Works at that time covered over 600 acres. The men worked long hours, 12-hour shifts. The work was hard, dirty, hot and dangerous. More than likely, many ended up deaf or at least hard of hearing because of the constant hammering.

An incomplete list of Scots who were sent to New England in 1650, including George Darling, appeared in the Iron Works papers in 1653.



The reconstructed Saugus Iron Works as it appears today.



A map of the Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site.

After serving his seven years as an indentured servant, George took the Freeman Oath. From Wikipedia²⁰: “The Oath of a Freeman was a loyalty oath drawn up in the early 17th century, to be taken by freemen of the Plymouth Colony, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; a freeman was any established member of a colony who was not under legal restraint. The Oath was a vow to defend the Commonwealth, and not to conspire to overthrow the government. It was first written in 1631, and revised in 1634. Original copies survive only in a handwritten copy from 1634 and in a later printed version from 1647.”

In 1672, George purchased two plots of land referred to as the Coy Pond property in Lynn/Salem/Essex/Massachusetts and became the owner of a tavern and inn on that property. Before this time, or possibly during, he was also a farmer and a yeoman. George also fished and cut wood.

Some time around 1657, George married a woman by the given name of Katherine [Katherine Gridley] and they were married until his death in 1693. His estate was inventoried on 13 September 1693 and his will probated 9 October 1693.

One wonders, given his age (36) at the time of the Battle of Dunbar in 1650, if George didn't leave an entire family back in Scotland. Did he have a wife and children in the Midlothians? We'll probably never know for sure. We do know the families of the captured Scots never knew exactly what happened to them. They were not informed if their sons and husbands had been captured, or if they died at Durham Castle or on the march back to London. They were never told their loved ones had been shipped an entire world away.

A bit of trivia: One of George and Katherine's sons, James Darling, gave testimony against Mary Towne Esty during the Salem Witch Trials of 1692. James Darling was married to Hannah Lewis Maine. She was the aunt of Mercy Lewis, one of the “afflicted girls” of the Witch Hysteria.

²⁰ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oath_of_a_Freeman

Appendix A

Francis Delos Darling (1844-1933) featured prominently in the first part of this chapter; I have “Shared DNA Matches” with four of his descendants. Here are two photos of Francis:



FRANCIS DELOS DARLING
1844-1932
MASON, MICHIGAN

Francis Delos Darling served in the 1st Connecticut Calvary during the Civil War. Interestingly, he enlisted under the name John Mason. Here is a copy of a letter from the United States National Archives, which was written on 15 March 1941, with some additional details:



DIVISION OF REFERENCE

The National Archives

Washington, D. C.

MAR 15 1941

DARLING, Francis D. alias
MASON, John
SC 673 080

Miss Ruth M. Darling
159 Glenwood Avenue
Meadville, Pennsylvania

Dear Miss Darling:

The Veterans' Administration has referred to The National Archives your request of March 1, 1941, for information concerning Francis Delos Darling.

Among the pension records in The National Archives is a file relating to the claim based on the Civil War service of "Francis D. Darling alias John Mason" as Private, Company F, 1st Connecticut Cavalry.

2220
In a Bureau of Pensions questionnaire returned by the veteran on June 6, 1898, he stated that he was married to "Cathrine Read" in "Watertown," Michigan. The names and birth dates of the children born to this marriage were reported as follows: Greta I., December 3, 1888; Dixie A., January 27, 1891; Samuel J., September 17, 1892; Ruth M., January 13, 1895; Joseph R., December 29, 1896.

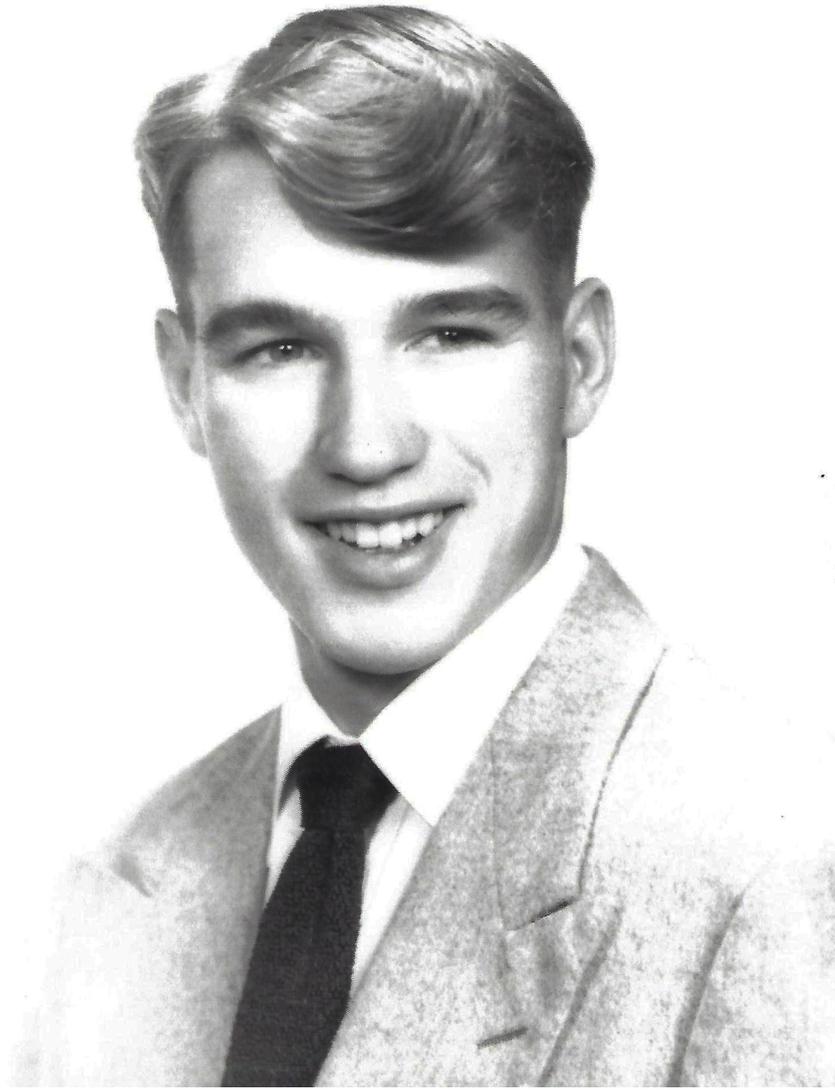
A negative photostatic copy of the above-cited document can be furnished you at a cost of fifty cents. To order the photostat, please send your remittance to this office by money order or certified check made payable to the Treasurer of the United States.

The file does not contain the veteran's certificate of discharge. A copy of your letter has therefore been referred to The Adjutant General, Department of War, Washington, D. C., since it is a function of that official to furnish statements concerning the military service of soldiers of the United States Army.

Very truly yours,

P. M. Hamer, Chief
Division of Reference

Finally, here is a photo of David Clark Darling from 1953, when he was about 17 years old:



David Clark Darling in 1953.