

My New DNA Match with Betty Fitterman (and where it took me)

By Burks Oakley II
1 May 2025

If you have been reading my recent narratives, you will know that much of my recent “research” has focused on my autosomal DNA matches with descendants of my eighth-great grandparents, Miles Oakley (1612-1672) and his wife Mary Browne (1607-1682). In many of my recent narratives, I have started with individuals who are my “Shared DNA Matches” with Kathy Hill Orr on the Ancestry.com website. A few examples are:

- http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/BillOakley_28Apr25.pdf
- http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/MargaretAnnOakleyDescendants_29Apr29.pdf
- http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/GailBrockaFenneman_30Apr25.pdf

Well, I have continued to look at my “Shared DNA Matches” with Kathy. One of the new “Shared DNA Matches” we have is Betty Fitterman:

 bettyfitterman  	Your: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 11 cM Paternal side	KathyOrr60's: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin 27 cM
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My DNA match with Betty is 11 cM, while Kathy’s DNA match with Betty is 27 cM.

I looked at my DNA match with Betty, and then I looked at our “Shared DNA Matches”. Here are the largest shared matches based on the size of my DNA match:

 Pamela Grogan  	Your: 3rd cousin 1x removed or half 3rd cousin 41 cM Paternal side	bettyfitterman's: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 33 cM
 Howard Bever  	Your: Half 3rd cousin or 3rd cousin 1x removed 40 cM Paternal side	bettyfitterman's: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 27 cM
 Cassidy Prentiss  	Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 39 cM Paternal side	bettyfitterman's: 3rd cousin 2x removed or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 28 cM
 Donald Baird  	Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin 38 cM Paternal side	bettyfitterman's: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin 26 cM

Her top four matches are with:

- Pamela Grogan
- Howard Bever
- Cassidy Prentiss
- Donald Baird

I have mentioned each of these individuals in previous narratives about the **Oakley-Browne** DNA segment on Chromosome 15. Since these people have this segment, and since Betty and I have “Shared DNA Matches” with all four of them, these four DNA matches are pretty good evidence that Betty Fitterman has the **Oakley-Browne** DNA segment on Chromosome 15 and therefore is a descendant of the **Oakley-Browne** couple.

Continuing on with my “Shared DNA Matches” with Betty, here are the next four largest “Shared DNA Matches”:

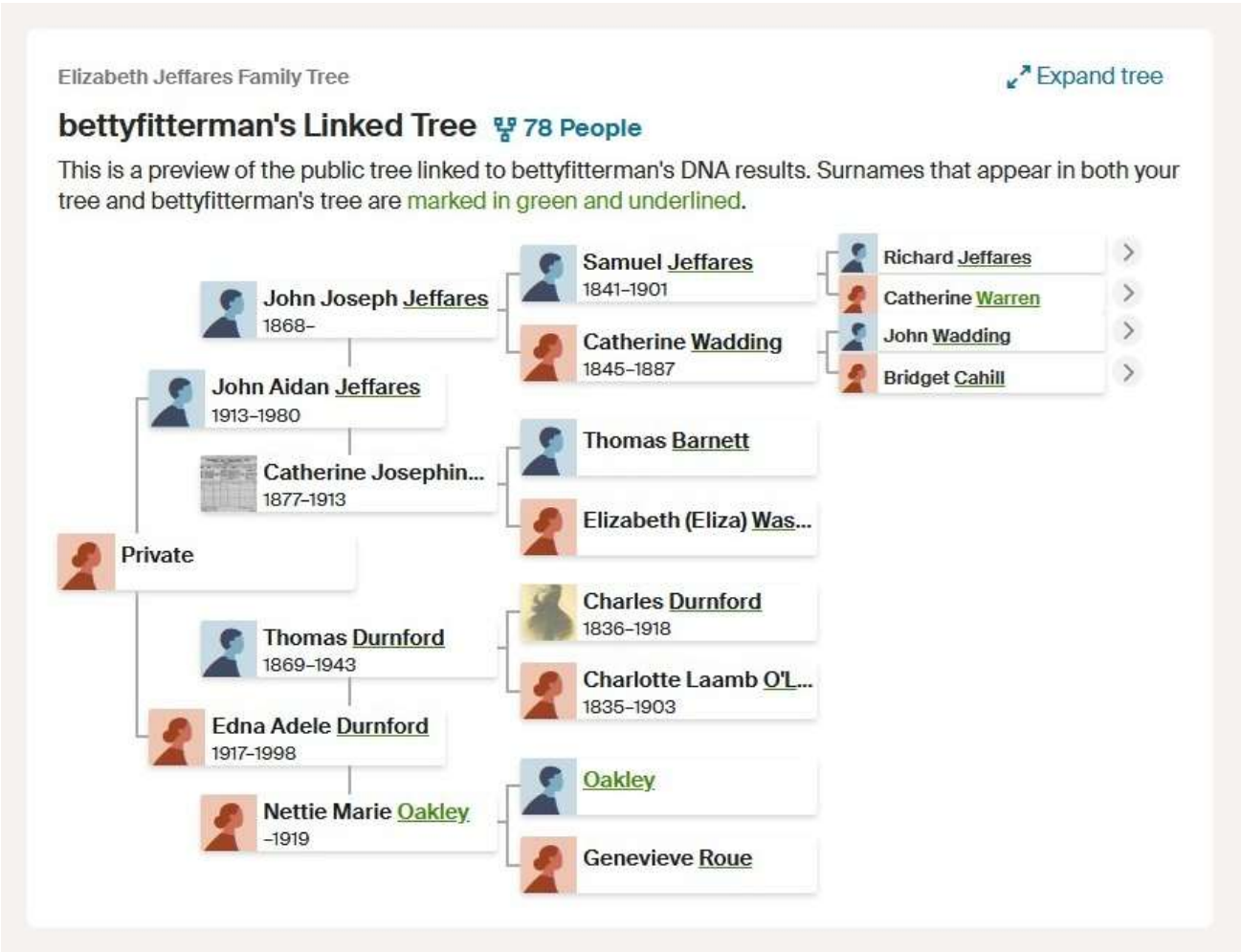
 M.W. Managed by LMW621  	Your: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 34 cM Paternal side	bettyfitterman's: 3rd cousin or half 2nd cousin 1x removed 104 cM
 A.B. Managed by Donald Baird  	Your: 3rd cousin 2x removed or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 33 cM Paternal side	bettyfitterman's: 3rd cousin 2x removed or half 2nd cousin 3x removed 28 cM
 E.W. Managed by LMW621  	Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 33 cM Paternal side	bettyfitterman's: 2nd cousin 2x removed or half 2nd cousin 1x removed 99 cM
 rjtrana50   	Your: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 33 cM Paternal side	bettyfitterman's: Half 3rd cousin or 3rd cousin 1x removed 46 cM

These four DNA matches are with:

- Mark Workman
- Andrew Baird
- Elizabeth Workman
- Jeani Trana

If you have read my previous narratives about the **Oakley-Browne** segment, then you should recognize that these four DNA matches provide additional support for Betty being an **Oakley-Browne** descendant.

Of course, I next looked at Betty’s pedigree chart:



Hot dang! Betty’s maternal grandmother was Nettie Marie Oakley (?-1919).

As an aside, Betty’s father was John Aiden Jeffares (1913-1980) and her tree is named the “Elizabeth Jeffares Family Tree”. I’m pretty sure that Betty’s birth name was Elizabeth Jeffares.

Here is Nettie Marie Oakley’s profile from the “Jeffares Family Tree”:

Jeffares Family Tree

Find in tree

JJ John Jeffares



Nettie Marie Oakley

BIRTH 12 MAY 1887 • New York City, NY

DEATH 12 MAY 1919 • Yonkers, NY

Family

Parents

 **Charles Joseph Oakley**
1865-1910

 **Genevieve Roue**
1863-1946

Spouse and children

 **Thomas Herbert Durnford**
1868-1943

 **Gertrude Louise Durnford**
1914-1989

 **John Oakley Durnford**
1916-1980

 **Edna Adele Durnford**
1917-1998

Here it has her birth year as 1887, and her father as Charles Joseph Oakley (1865-1910).

Unfortunately, going back one more generation to Charles Joseph Oakley was a bust. His parents are unknown:

Jeffares Family Tree

Find in tree

JJ John Jeffares

Charles Joseph Oakley

BIRTH 1865

DEATH 1910

Family

Spouse and children

Parents

Unknown father

Unknown mother

Genevieve Roue

1863–1946

Nettie Marie Oakley

1887–1919

And Charles Joseph Oakley only appears in three family trees on Ancestry.com, and none of them have his parents. A brick wall. Darn!

Given what I know about Betty Fitterman’s DNA matches, I know that her great-grandfather Charles Joseph Oakley has to connect back to the *Westchester Oakley* family, and ultimately to the *Oakley-Browne* couple.

I went back to my DNA match with Betty Fitterman and I sorted our “Shared DNA Matches” from Betty’s perspective – from largest to smallest. Her largest shared match is with a woman having the username of *B.S.* (Managed by Korey Stump):

B.S. Managed by Korey Stump		Your: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 9 cM Paternal side	bettyfitterman's: 2nd cousin 1x removed or half 2nd cousin 140 cM
M.W. Managed by LMW621		Your: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 34 cM Paternal side	bettyfitterman's: 3rd cousin or half 2nd cousin 1x removed 104 cM
E.W. Managed by LMW621		Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 33 cM Paternal side	bettyfitterman's: 2nd cousin 2x removed or half 2nd cousin 1x removed 99 cM
goinbroke2		Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin 26 cM Paternal side	bettyfitterman's: 3rd cousin or half 2nd cousin 1x removed 73 cM

Betty has a 140 cM DNA match with *B.S.*, and they could be as close as second-cousins once-removed (2C1R). But they certainly could have other relationships. I used the “Shared cM Project 4.0 tool v4”¹ to look at the probabilities of other relationships for people sharing 140 cM of DNA.

¹ <https://dnapainter.com/tools/sharedcmv4>

Here are the various probabilities:

53%	Half 2C 2C1R Half 1C2R 1C3R
20%	Half 1C3R † 3C Half 2C1R 2C2R
19%	Half GG-Aunt / Uncle 2C Half 1C1R 1C2R Half GG-Niece / Nephew
6%	Half 3C 3C1R Half 2C2R 2C3R
2%	4C † Half 3C1R † 3C2R

So while a 2C1R relationship is most probable, there is a 20% probability of them being third-cousins (3C) and a 19% chance of them being second-cousins (2C).

Since Betty is a somewhat close relative of **B.S.**, I decided to examine my DNA match with **B.S.**:



You and B.S.

B.S.'s test is managed by: **Korey Stump**

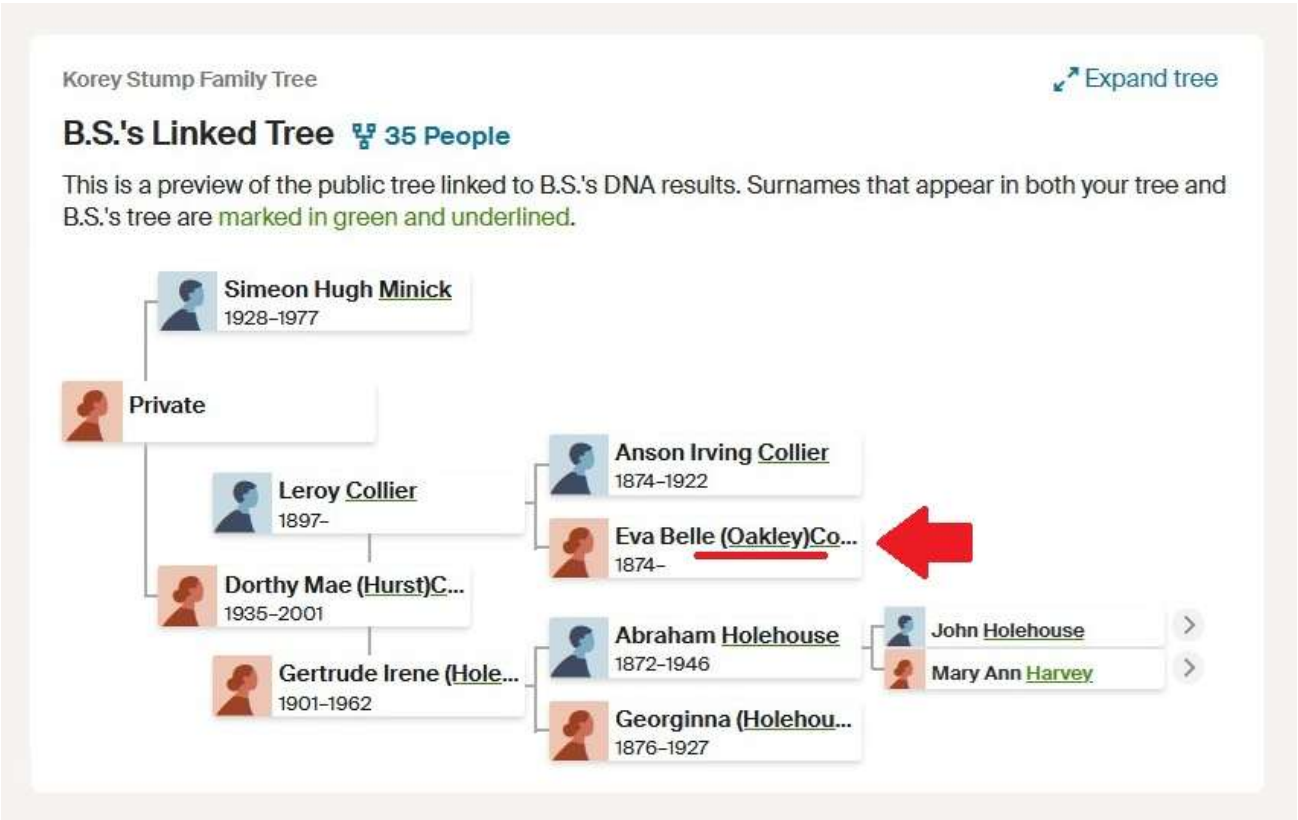
4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed | Paternal side
< 1% shared DNA: 9 cM across 1 segments

I immediately looked at our “Shared DNA Matches”:

 Pamela Grogan	 	Your: 3rd cousin 1x removed or half 3rd cousin 41 cM Paternal side	B.S.'s: 2nd cousin 1x removed or half 1st cousin 2x removed 112 cM
 Howard Bever	 	Your: Half 3rd cousin or 3rd cousin 1x removed 40 cM Paternal side	B.S.'s: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin 20 cM
 Donald Baird	 	Your: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin 38 cM Paternal side	B.S.'s: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 22 cM
 A.B. Managed by Donald Baird	 	Your: 3rd cousin 2x removed or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 33 cM Paternal side	B.S.'s: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 3rd cousin 2x removed 25 cM

B.S. and I have “Shared DNA Matches” with Donald Baird, his son Andrew Baird, his close relative Pamela Grogan (the DNA probably came from her husband, who is Donald’s actual relative), and Howard Bever. Wow, she certainly is an **Oakley-Browne** descendant.

I next looked at her pedigree chart:



Bingo! Her great-grandmother on her mother’s side of the family was Eva Belle Oakley (born 1874):

Here is a profile for Eva Belle Oakley from the “Douglas Bullard Family Tree” on Ancestry.com:



Eva Belle’s father was Benjamin David Oakley (1832-1902):



And Benjamin David Oakley’s father was William M. Oakley (1790-1854):

Oakley Family Tree

Find in tree

Susan Reeves

William M Oakley

BIRTH 28 JUL 1790 • Yonkers, Westchester County, NY

DEATH 7 MAY 1854 • Yonkers, Westchester County, New York, United States of America

Family

Parents

David William Oakley Jr

1750-1829

Eunice Hunt

1760-1848

Spouse and children

Mercy "Marcia" Mary Farrington

1792-1869

Thomas Farrington Oakley

1815-

Emily Matson Oakley

1815-1851

John A Oakley

1818-

Joseph Hunt Oakley

1823-

Eliza Oakley

1823-1903

Abigail Jane "Abbie" Oakley

1823-1894

Timothy William Oakley

1825-1909

Hannah Matilda Oakley

1828-

Phebe M. Oakley

1828-1913

Margaret Ann Oakley

1831-1887

Benjamin David Oakley

1832-1902

David Benjamin Oakley

1836-1909

Susan Jeanette "Nettie" Oakley

1837-1897

Cordelia Ann Oakley

1837-1882

Robert Oakley

William M. Oakley was a son of David William Oakley Jr. (1750-1829). And I know that David Jr. was a descendant of the ***Oakley-Browne*** couple.

OK, so ***B.S.*** for sure is descended from the ***Oakley-Browne*** couple and appears to have the ***Oakley-Browne*** DNA segment on Chromosome 15.

Recall that I looked into ***B.S.*** because she is somewhat closely related to Betty Fitterman, whose ***Oakley*** line was a brick wall (dead end).

I know that Eva Belle Oakley (a great-grandmother of ***B.S.***) was born in 1869.

I know that Charles Joseph Oakley (a great-grandfather of Betty Fitterman) was born in 1865.

I'm going to go out on a limb and guess that Eva Belle Oakley and Charles Joseph Oakley were siblings. [So you can't believe anything that you read about my relationship with Betty Fitterman from here on...]

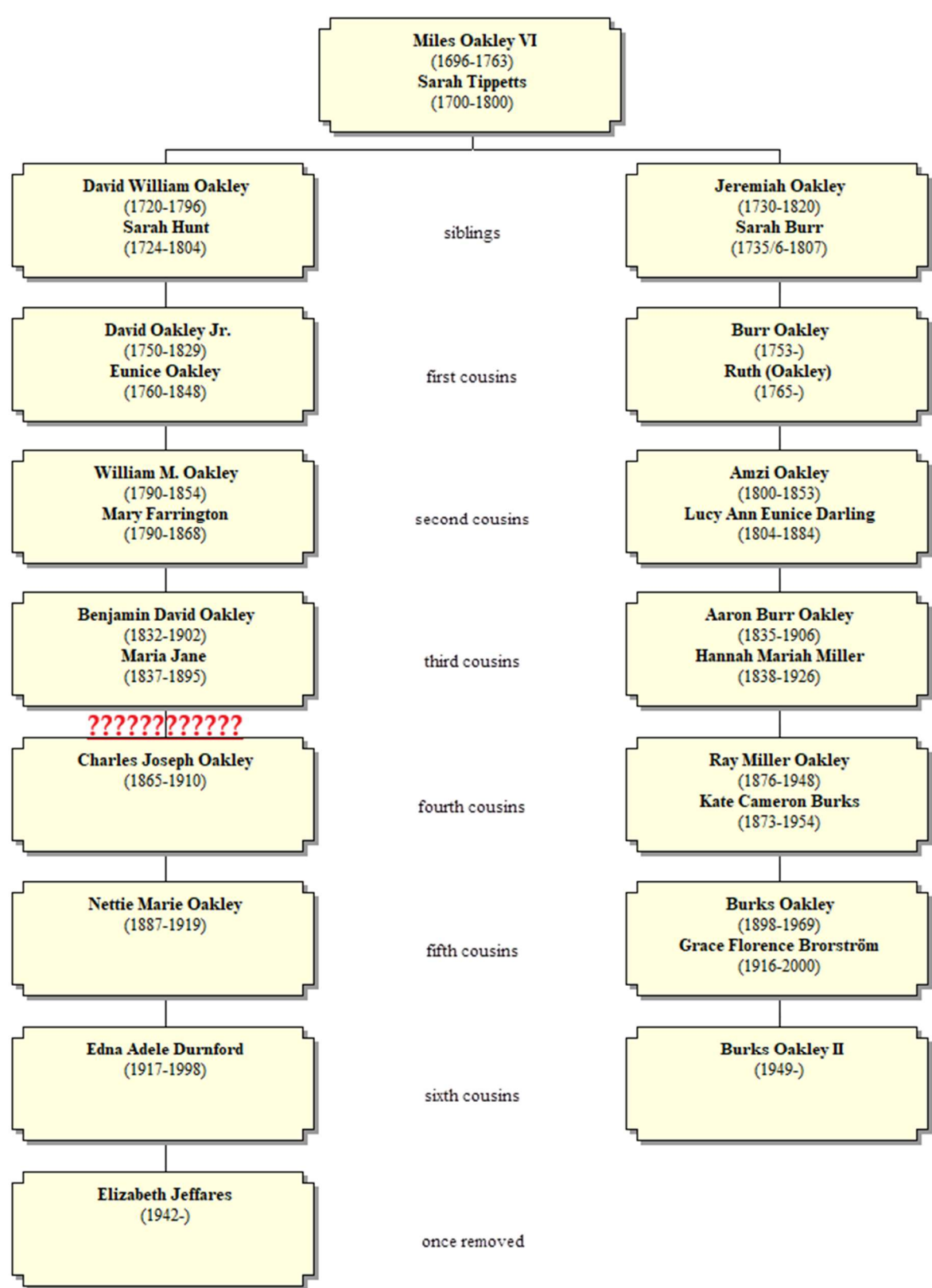
I know that descendants of second-great grandparents are third-cousins (3C), and there is a 20% probability that people who share 140 cM of DNA (like Betty and ***B.S.***) have a 3C relationship.

Eva Belle's father was Benjamin David Oakley (1832-1902).

If Benjamin David Oakley wasn't the father of Charles Joseph Oakley, then maybe Benjamin's brother or nephew was. I know that the two ***Oakley*** ancestral lines (for Betty and ***B.S.***) have to be closely related.

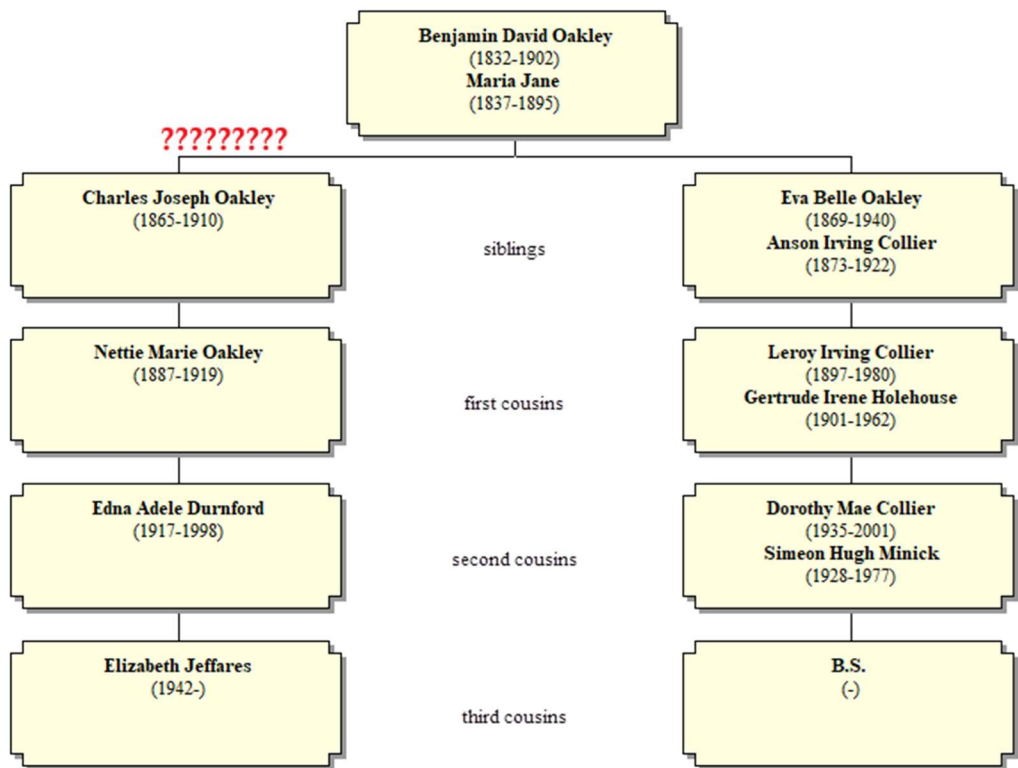
B.S. most definitely is an ***Oakley-Browne*** descendant. And although I don't know Betty's exact ancestral line, her "Shared DNA Matches" and her relationship to ***B.S.*** will let me add her to the list of ***Oakley-Browne*** descendants.

I added Betty Fitterman (born Elizabeth Jeffares) to my RootsMagic database and then created a chart showing how we might be related:



Again, I created this chart under the assumption that Charles Joseph Oakley's father was Benjamin David Oakley. I have no evidence for this, but it seems reasonable based on what I know.

Finally, I created a chart showing how Betty Fitterman and *B.S.* might be related:



To summarize – I began this narrative by looking at a new “Shared DNA Match” with Kathy Hill Orr – and this person was Betty Fitterman (born Elizabeth Jeffares). Betty has “Shared DNA Matches” with a number of descendants of the *Oakley-Brown* couple, and her maternal grandmother was Nettie Marie Oakley (1887-1919). Unfortunately, I couldn’t trace the *Oakley* line beyond Nettie Marie’s father, Charles Joseph Oakley (1865-1910).

The largest “Shared DNA Match” that Betty has with me is with a woman having the username of *B.S.* And *B.S.* also has “Shared DNA Matches” with numerous descendants of the *Oakley-Browne* couple. And I was able to trace her *Oakley* line all the way back to Miles Oakley VI (1696-1763) and his wife Sarah Tippetts (1700-1800). This Miles Oakley was a great-grandson of the *Oakley-Browne* couple.

I went way out on a limb and assumed that Betty and *B.S.* shared common second-great grandparents, making them third-cousins. Under that assumption, I showed how it was possible for Betty to be descended from the *Oakley-Browne* couple.

I’ll now add Betty Fitterman (Elizabeth Jeffares) and *B.S.* to my list of *Oakley-Browne* descendants.