My DNA Matches with the Descendants of Mary Ida Lemonds (1868-1950)

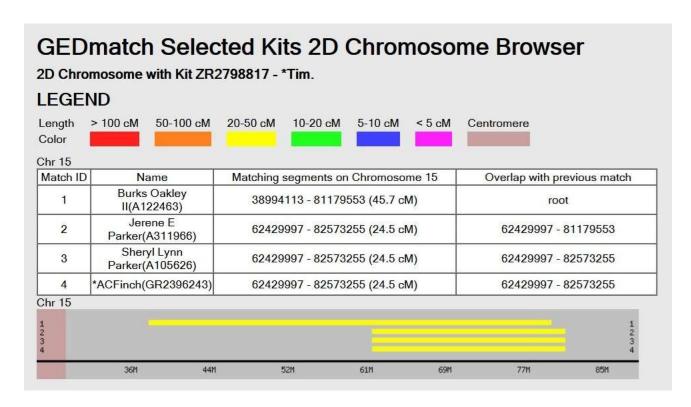
By Burks Oakley II 9 May 2025

I am interested in genetic genealogy – that is, the use of DNA to confirm and to extend my family tree. One of the most interesting things I have found in recent years is that I have DNA matches with a number of people who are descended from Miles Oakley (1612-1672) and his wife Mary Browne (1607-1682). This couple were my eighth-great grandparents. Using the GEDmatch.com website, I have found that the matching segment of DNA is on Chromosome 15.

I have written extensively about my DNA matches with other descendants of the *Oakley-Browne* couple. Links to all my narratives on this topic can be found on my personal website at:

http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/Oakley-Chr-15.html

One of the people who has the matching DNA segment on Chromosome 15 is Sheryl Lynn Finch (née Parker). Her son Austin Finch also has this segment, as does her sister Jerene Elizabeth Parker. Here is a screenshot from GEDmatch, showing how Jerene, Sheryl, Austin, and I match Rev. Timothy W. Bever on Chromosome 15:



I chose Tim Bever for this comparison, since he appears to have the longest *Oakley-Browne* segment on Chromosome 15, and his ancestral line goes all the way back to the *Oakley-Browne* couple. In my mind, he is the "gold standard" for this segment on Chromosome 15.

In the screenshot shown above, the white table in the middle has the exact distance along the chromosome where each person matches Tim. The bar graph

in the lower part displays the numerical figures from the table. Note that Tim's DNA segment is not shown, but it can be inferred to go from the left extreme to the right extreme of the yellow bars. The yellow color of the bars in the graph indicate that each of these DNA matches is in the range of 20-50 cM.

The important thing to note is that Jerene, Sheryl, and Austin have essentially the same segment matching Tim. It seems that the two sisters, Jerene and Sheryl, both inherited the identical segment from their father, and Austin inherited this identical segment from his mother Sheryl. Since this segment seems to pass from parent to child essentially unchanged, I have called it a "sticky segment". I have postulated that this is why this segment has persisted for so many generations. In the case of Sheryl and me, our most recent common ancestors are Miles Oakley (1612-1672) and his wife Mary Browne (1607-1682), as shown in the following relationship chart:



Based on this chart, Sheryl and I are ninth-cousins once-removed.

I recently found that ten descendants of Iola May Oakley appear to have the matching DNA segment on Chromosome 15:

http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/IolaMayOakley-Descendants_23Apr25.pdf

Since Sheryl, Jerene, and Austin have the *Oakley-Browne* DNA segment, I decided to see if others in this family also had this segment.¹ And that is what the rest of this narrative is about.

On the GEDmatch.com website, I used the "One-to-Many" software tool for Sheryl Lynn Parker (A105626). Her largest DNA matches were:

Kit	1	1:1	Name	Largest Seg	Total cM	Gen	Overlap	Date Compared	Testin Compa
GR2396243		Α	*ACFinch	151.8	3572.7	1	208401	2020-10-11	Ancestry
HS4269179		Α	*STFinch	151.8	3572.7	1	208797	2020-10-11	Ancestry
CR9929837		Α	*RW Parker	149.9	2747.9	1.2	209326	2019-04-07	Ancestry
A311966		A	Jerene E Parker	224.2	2654.4	1.2	N/A	2017-02-18	Migration A
A507627		A	Tracy Evan Anderson	44.6	281.5	2.8	N/A	2017-06-07	Migration A

Her top two matches are her sons, Austin Finch and Shannon Finch. The next two matches are her siblings, Reginald Ward Parker and Jerene Elizabeth Parker. The fifth match in this group is Tracy Evan Anderson – I wrote about my DNA match with him in a recent narrative:

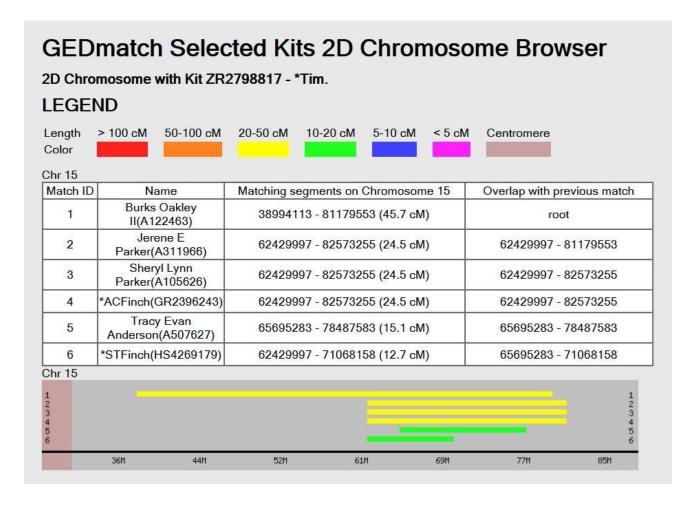
http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/Oakley-Chr15-Subgroups_17Apr25.pdf

In that narrative, I showed that Sheryl Parker and Tracy Evan Anderson are second-cousins. I'll come back to this later in the narrative.

Since five of Sheryl's close relatives are on GEDmatch.com, I used the "People who match both kits" software tool to see how Sheryl and her close relatives match Tim Bever and me.

Here is a screenshot showing how we all match Tim Bever:

¹ This isn't exactly true. Over several months, I found additional family members with the *Oakley-Browne* segment. I thought I would bring them all together in this narrative.



In the lower part of this screenshot, the horizontal bars show how each of us match Tim Bever on Chromosome 15. Once again, Tim's DNA segment isn't shown, but it can be inferred to go from the left extreme to the right extreme of the yellow bars.

Several points are worth noting. Sheryl, Jerene, and Austin have essentially the same match with Tim. Shannon (line 6) seems to have lost the right-side of his mother's segment, but he still has some of it. Tracy (line 5, Sheryl's second-cousin) has the central portion of what Sheryl has.

Note that Sheryl's brother, Reginald Ward Parker, does not appear in this screenshot. I used the "One-to-one autosomal DNA comparison" tool to look at this more closely. Here is a comparison of Reginald and me:

Chr	B37 Start Pos'n	B37 End Pos'n	Centimorgans (cM)	SNPs	Segment threshold	Bunch limit	SNP Density Ratio
4	145,565,826	148,698,365	3.2	294	205	123	0.21
5	73,855,164	75,602,703	3.1	231	187	112	0.25
7	131,459,782	134,040,308	3	310	210	126	0.23
7	141,851,610	144,703,987	3.2	260	217	130	0.21
9	1,102,943	2,028,237	3.1	306	218	130	0.33
11	122,613,549	124,017,493	3.6	357	225	135	0.35
12	131,332,064	132,630,822	3.1	248	206	124	0.29
21	16,841,195	18,822,174	4.3	342	218	130	0.3

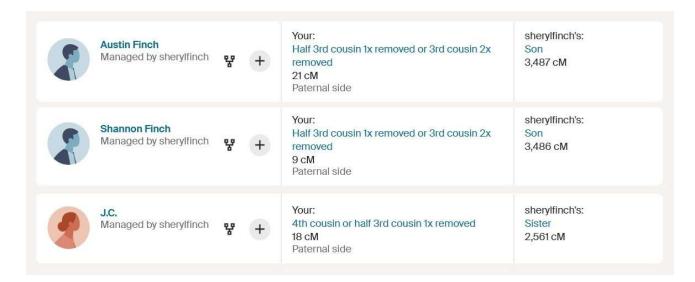
In this comparison, I lowered the threshold for a match to 3 cM (the default value is 7 cM). Even at this low threshold, Reginald and I do not have a matching DNA segment on Chromosome 15.

I repeated the comparison for Reginald and Tim Bever:

Chr	B37 Start Pos'n	B37 End Pos'n	Centimorgans (cM)	SNPs	Segment threshold	Bunch limit	SNP Density Ratio
1	242,627,009	244,155,726	3	201	191	114	0.28
3	60,353,622	62,755,758	4.1	619	191	114	0.31
4	5,843,328	6,687,113	3.1	329	176	106	0.4
4	185,781,300	186,564,571	3	206	194	116	0.34
5	31,907,887	33,617,767	3.2	326	186	111	0.3
9	20,471,312	23,073,969	3.1	453	198	119	0.3
11	69,864,805	71,851,199	3.3	317	223	133	0.33
11	122,771,528	124,362,487	3.7	358	212	127	0.33
13	75,871,330	79,243,336	3.1	566	244	146	0.3
15	63,786,934	67,221,050	4.2	461	220	132	0.31
16	9,147,012	10,645,717	3.3	391	196	117	0.35
21	36,561,598	37,818,305	3.3	226	214	128	0.32

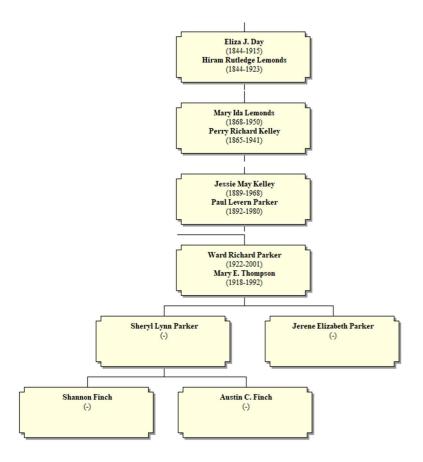
Reginald's largest segment matching Tim is 4.2 cM. They do have a 4.2 cM match on Chromosome 15, from 63,786,934 to 67,221,050. This overlaps with the *Oakley-Browne* segment. But a segment of this size certainly wouldn't be reported as a DNA match by testing companies such as Ancestry.com.

I next looked at my DNA match with Sheryl Lynn Finch (née Parker) on Ancestry.com. I viewed our "Shared DNA Matches". Since I have a "Pro" membership on Ancestry.com, I was able to view our shared matches from Sheryl's perspective – from largest to smallest:



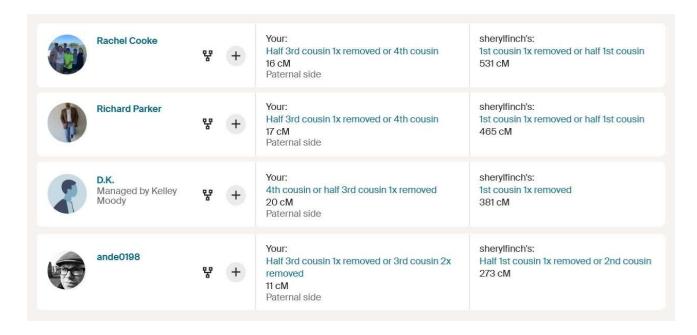
Her two largest matches are with her sons, Austin and Shannon. Her third largest match is with her sister, Jerene Elizabeth Parker (*J.C.* on Ancestry.com).

Here is a chart showing how the four of them are related:



I included their ancestral line back to Eliza J. Day (1844-1915), since this is part of the line back to the *Oakley-Browne* couple.

I also looked at Sheryl's next four largest matches (from her perspective):



These four matches included Rachel Cooke, Richard Parker, and **D.K.**, all of whom appear to be Sheryl's first-cousins once-removed. I didn't recognize the first three people here.

I began with Rachel Cooke. I looked at my DNA match with her, and then I looked at <u>our</u> "Shared DNA Matches". Here are the top three from Rachel's perspective:



From this I learned that Richard Parker and Rachel Cooke are siblings, and they are first-cousins once-removed to Sheryl and Jerene.

To see exactly how Rachel and Richard are related to Sheryl, I looked at their pedigree charts. Here is Sheryl's:



I marked her *Oakley-Browne* ancestral line with red stars.

And here is Richard's pedigree:

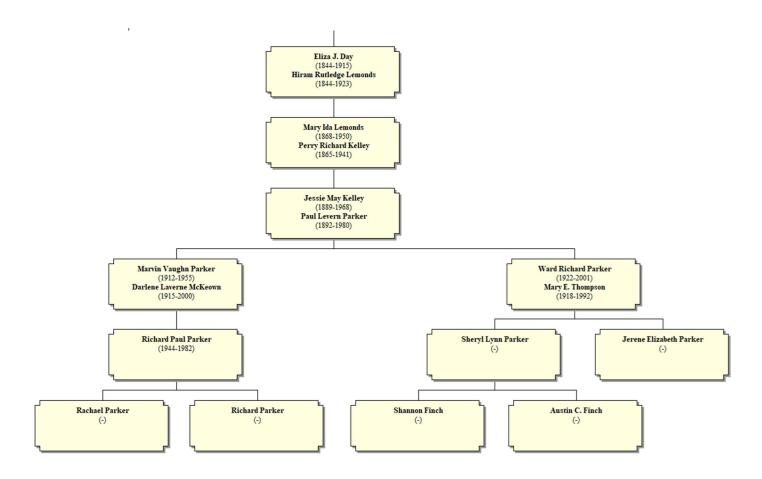


I marked his *Oakley-Browne* ancestral line with red stars.

In comparing the two pedigrees, Sheryl and Richard both are descended from Jessie May Kelley (1889-1968). Sheryl's father Ward Richard Parker (1922-2001) and Richard's paternal grandfather Marvin Vaughn Parker (1912-1955) were both sons of Jessie May Kelley.

Richard's father and Sheryl were first-cousins, meaning that Richard and Sheryl are first-cousins once-removed.

Now I can add Richard Parker and Rachel Parker (married name Cooke) to the family relationship chart:



According to this chart, Rachel Parker and her brother Richard Parker are both second-cousins of Shannon Finch and his brother Austin Finch. And when I looked at my DNA match with Rachel, our list of "Shared DNA Matches" included



Based on the size of their DNA matches, Ancestry.com suggested that they are second-cousins. So this is all consistent.

But did Rachel and Richard inherit the *Oakley-Browne* DNA segment? I looked at my DNA match with Richard and then looked at <u>our</u> "Shared DNA Matches". I was glad to see that Richard has a DNA match with Tim Bever and his brother John:

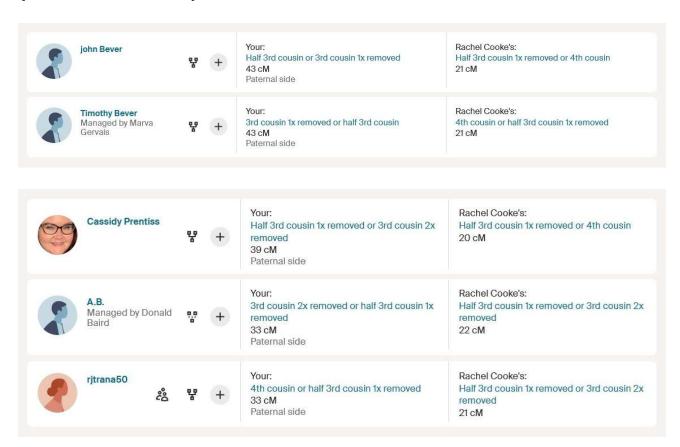


Here are three more of our "Shared DNA Matches":



These matches are with Cassidy Prentiss, Andrew Baird, and Jeani Trana, and all three of them have the *Oakley-Browne* DNA segment on Chromosome 15.

Here are the same "Shared DNA Matches" for Richard's sister Rachel Parker (married name Cooke):



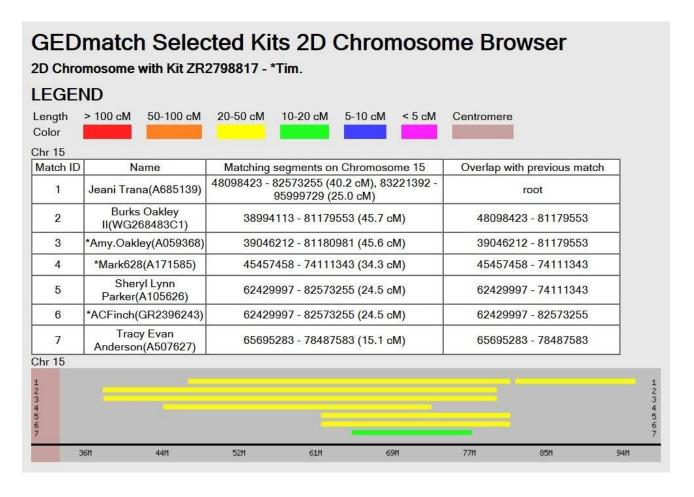
So clearly Richard and Rachel have the *Oakley-Browne* segment.

Now let me turn to another one of Sheryl's close relatives – Tracy Evan Anderson.

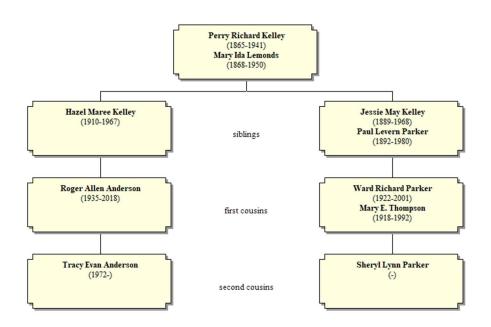
I mentioned my DNA match with Tracy in an earlier narrative:

 $http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/Oakley-Chr15-Subgroups_17 Apr 25.pdf$

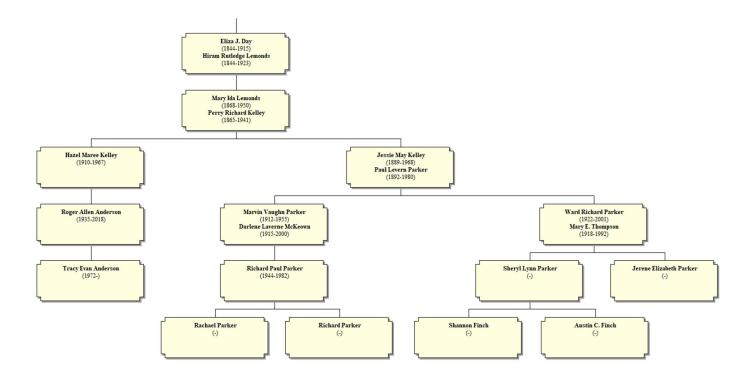
In that narrative, I looked at how Tracy matches others who have the *Oakley-Browne* segment on Chromosome 15. Here is a screenshot from GEDmatch:



Tracy is in line 7 in the bar graph, and he clearly has the *Oakley-Browne* segment. In the narrative mentioned on the previous page, I included a chart showing how Sheryl and Tracy are related:

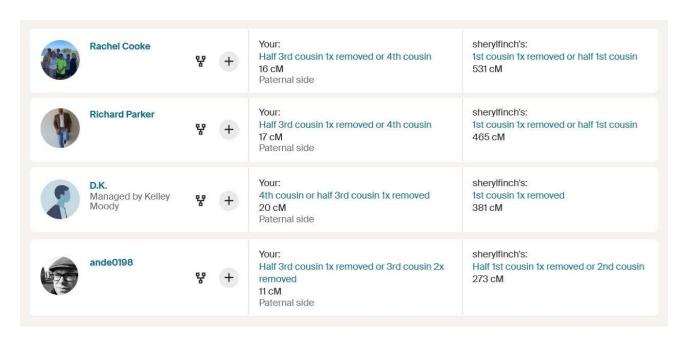


So now I can add him to the family's relationship chart:



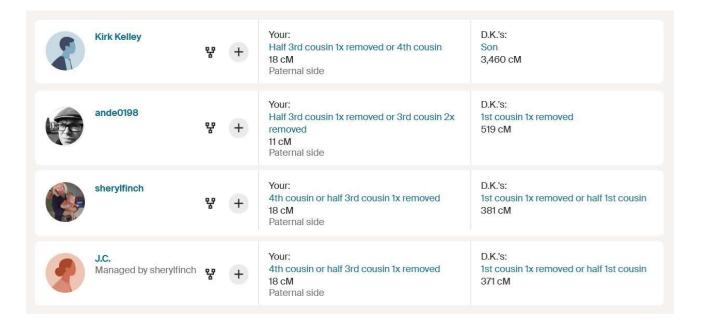
Are there any other close relatives in this branch of *Oakley-Browne* descendants?

I looked at my DNA match with Sheryl Lynn Parker (married name Finch), and then I looked at <u>our</u> "Shared DNA Matches".



Someone I hadn't looked at previously was a man having the username of **D.K.** (managed by Kelley Moody). Based on the size of his DNA match with Sheryl, they could be first-cousins once-removed.

I looked at my DNA match with *D.K.* Unfortunately, his family tree was not at all helpful. I looked at <u>our</u> "Shared DNA Matches" – here are the top matches from his perspective:



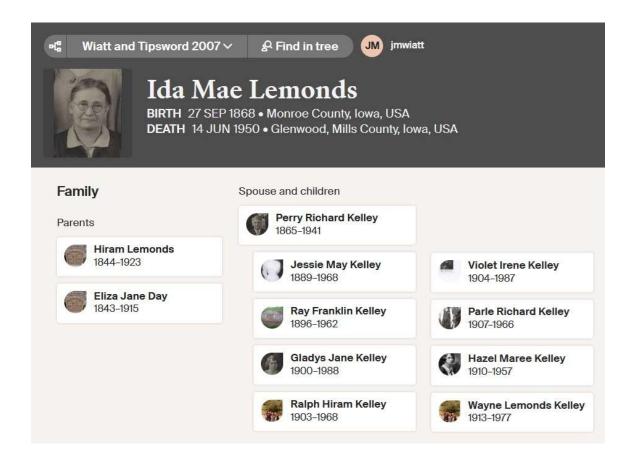
His top match is with his son Kirk Kelley. So *D.K.* must be a *Kelley*. And based on the size of his DNA matches, he is a first-cousin once-removed of Tracy Evan Anderson, Sheryl Lynn Parker, and Jerene Elizabeth Parker.

So where does the *Kelley* family intersect with Sheryl Parker's ancestors? Here is Sheryl's pedigree chart that I showed previously:



According to this pedigree chart, Jessie May Kelley (1889-1968) was Sheryl Finch's paternal grandmother. Jessie May was the daughter of Perry Richard Kelley (1865-1941) and his wife Mary Ida Lemonds (1868-1950).

Here is a profile of Mary Ida Lemonds from the "Wiatt and Tipsword 2007" family tree:

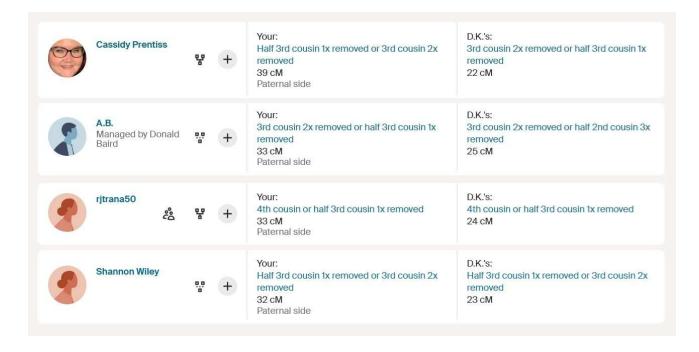


Ida May Lemonds and her husband Perry Richard Kelley had four sons – Ray, Ralph, Parle, and Wayne. My guess is that one of these sons was *D.K.*'s father. Without a better family tree or more complete names, I really can't go any farther with this.

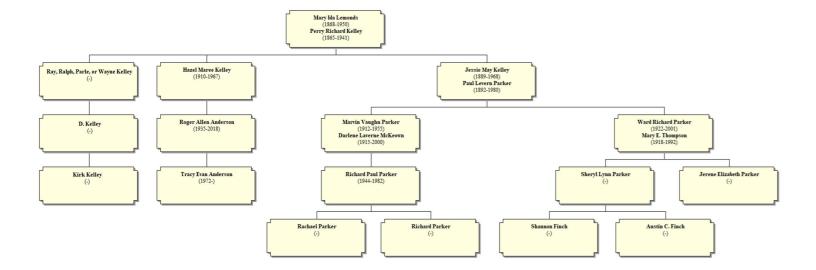
D.K. matches the Bevers:



And here is the second set of matches:



So now I can add **D.K.** and his son Kirk Kelley to the family tree:



This branch of the family tree is displayed in landscape mode in the *Appendix*.

Based on this tree, Kirk Kelley is a second-cousin of Sheryl Lynn Parker and her sister Jerene Elizabeth Parker. And that is exactly what the software on Ancestry.com predicted based on the sizes of their DNA matches:



At this point, I have nine DNA matches with this branch of the family. Amazing! Since Mary Ida Lemonds is the ancestor of all of these folks, I'll refer to them as the **Mary Ida Lemonds** descendants. Hence the title of this narrative.

Unanswered questions – Why doesn't Sheryl's brother have this DNA segment? Why does her son Shannon only have half of it? It had persisted for so many generations. What happened here?

To sum up – The amazing thing is that so many of the descendants of Mary Ida Lemonds have the *Oakley-Browne* DNA segment on Chromosome 15.

Appendix:

