My DNA Matches with Descendants of Margaret Ann Oakley (1831-1887)

By Burks Oakley II 29 April 2025

I recently wrote a narrative about my DNA matches with members of the *Nashville Oakley* branch of our family – see:

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

In this narrative, I wrote about my DNA matches with ten descendants of Iola May Oakley (1884-1971). Since Iola lived in Nashville, Tennessee, for most of her adult life, I have termed this group of DNA matches the *Nashville Oakley* branch of our family. The ten people in this group all are descended from Miles Oakley (1612-1672) and his wife Mary Browne (1607-1682), and I'm 99% sure that we all share a matching segment of DNA on Chromosome 15.

One of the key people in this branch of our family is Kathy Hill Orr. Kathy is the only person in this group who has her DNA on GEDmatch.com, and I know for sure that we have a 26.1 cM match on Chromosome 15:

 Comparing Kit A122463 (Burks Oakley II) [Migration - F2 - A] and Kit A657657 (Kathy Hill Orr) [Migration - F2 - A]

 Chr B37 Start Pos'n B37 End Pos'n Centimorgans (cM) SNPs Segment threshold Bunch limit SNP Density Ratio

 15 39,003,409 64,239,941
 26.1
 5,869
 223
 134
 0.43

Largest segment = 26.1 cM

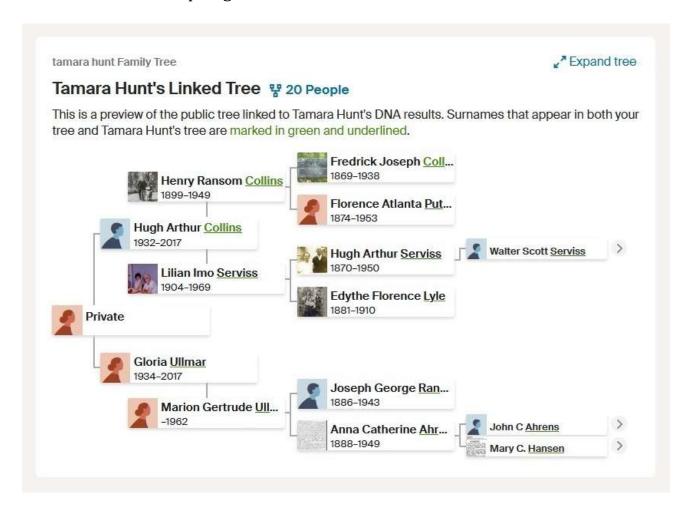
When I was writing the narrative about the descendants of Iola May Oakley, I looked in detail at my DNA match with Kathy Hill Orr on the Ancestry.com website. I was especially interested in our "Shared DNA Matches" – that is, the people with whom Kathy and I both have DNA matches. People in this group include all of the members of the *Nashville Oakley* branch of our family.

Of course, there were many others with whom Kathy and I had "Shared DNA Matches". One of these people was Tamara Hunt:



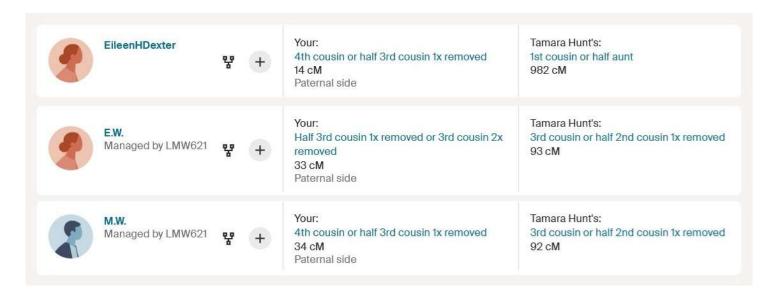
Since Kathy and I both have DNA matches with Tamara, I thought that it was highly likely that Tamara Hunt also was descended from the *Oakley-Browne* couple.

I looked at Tamara's pedigree chart:



Unfortunately, I didn't see any obvious connection to the *Oakley* family from her pedigree. I did learn, however, that her father was Hugh Arthur Collins (1932-2017), so her maiden name was most likely Tamara Collins.

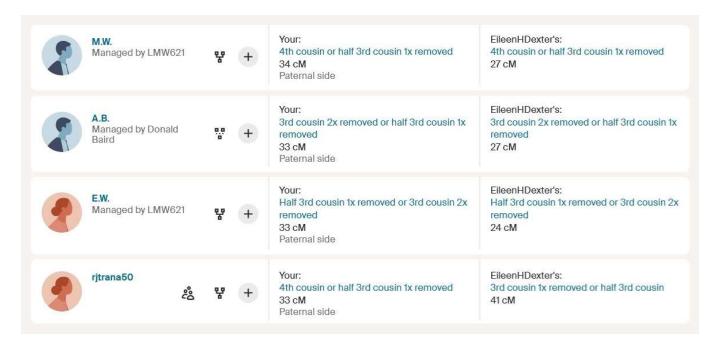
While looking at my DNA match with Tamara on Ancestry.com, I also looked at <u>our</u> "Shared DNA Matches". Since I have a "Pro" membership on Ancestry, I not only could see our shared matches, but I also could see the size of these matches. Here are our top three shared matches, sorted by the size of the match with Tamara:



I immediately recognized *E.W.* and *M.W.* as Elizabeth Workman and her father Mark Workman. They also are descended from the *Oakley-Browne* couple, and I know from the GEDmatch.com website that they have the *Oakley-Browne* DNA segment on Chromosome 15 (just like Kathy Hill Orr and I do).

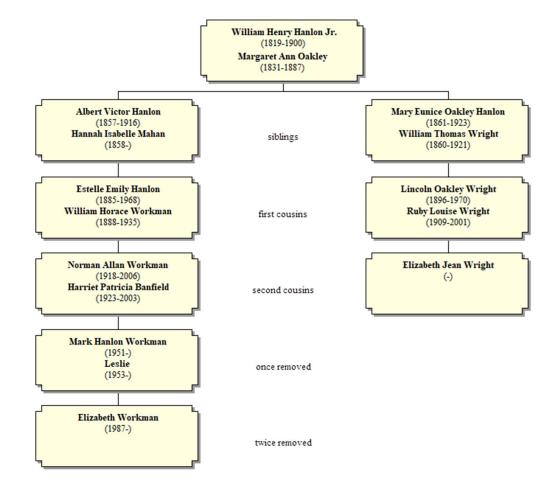
Tamara's largest DNA match is with EileenHDexter. I assume that her name is really Eileen H. Dexter. I think that this might be the first time that I have seen that I have a DNA match with Eileen.

I went ahead and looked at my DNA match with Eileen, and then looked at <u>our</u> "Shared DNA Matches":



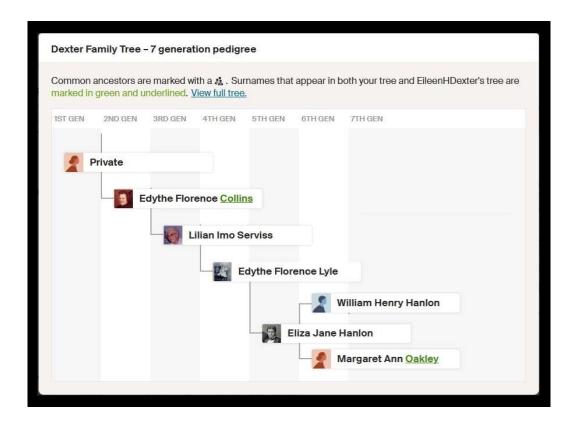
Oh my! Eileen not only has DNA matches with Mark Workman and his daughter Elizabeth Workman, but she also has DNA matches with *A.B.* (Andrew Baird) and *rjtrana50* (Elizabeth Jean Wright, aka Jeani Trana). And all four of these individuals have the *Oakley-Browne* DNA segment on Chromosome 15.

At this point, I was 99% certain that Eileen also was a descendant of the *Oakley-Browne* couple. And as I thought about our "Shared DNA Matches", I remembered that the Workmans and Jeani Trana are in the same branch of our *Oakley* family tree – here is a chart showing how they are related:



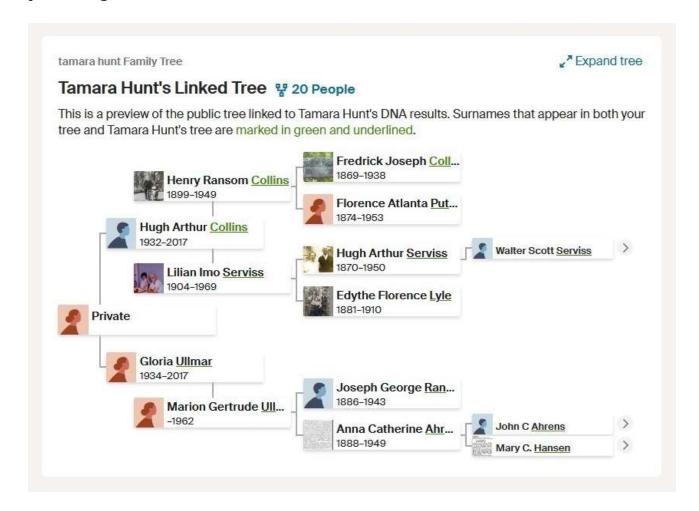
Mark, Elizabeth, and Jeani are all descended from Margaret Ann Oakley (1831-1887) and her husband William Henry Hanlon Jr. (1819-1900). In fact, Mark's middle name is Hanlon.

I went on to look at Eileen's pedigree. I've edited it to just show the relevant ancestral line:



Oh my! Eileen is also descended from Margaret Ann Oakley and her husband William Henry Hanlon.

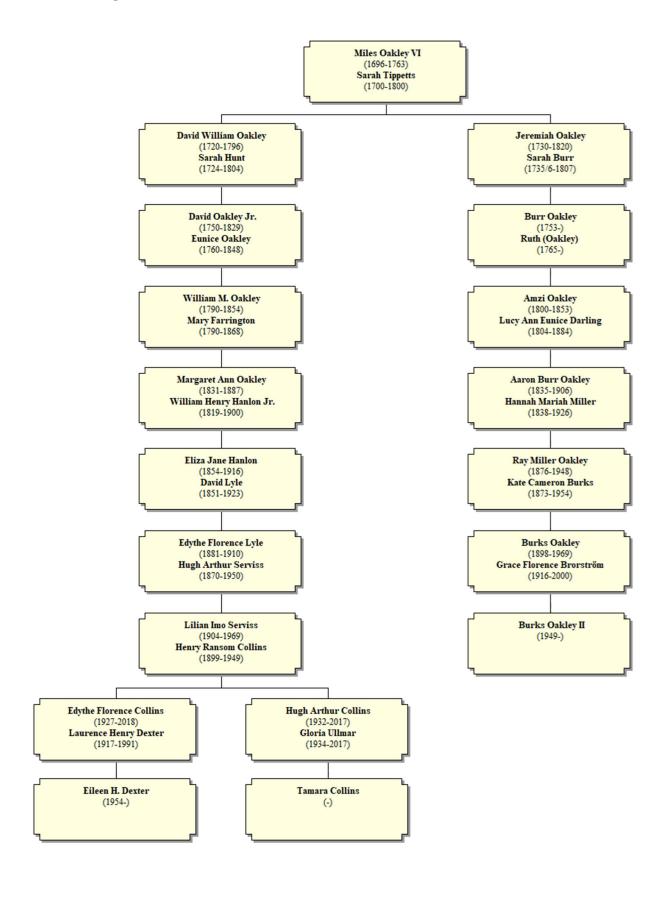
Based on Eileen's pedigree chart, her maternal grandmother was Lilian Imo Serviss (1904-1969). Going back to Tamara Hunt's pedigree, I see that her paternal grandmother was this same woman – Lilian Imo Serviss:



Based on the two pedigree charts, Eileen's mother, Edythe Florence Collins (1927-2018), and Tamara's father, Hugh Arthur Collins (1932-2017), were siblings. That means that Eileen and Tamara are first-cousins. This is exactly what software on the Ancestry.com website predicted, based on the size of their DNA match:

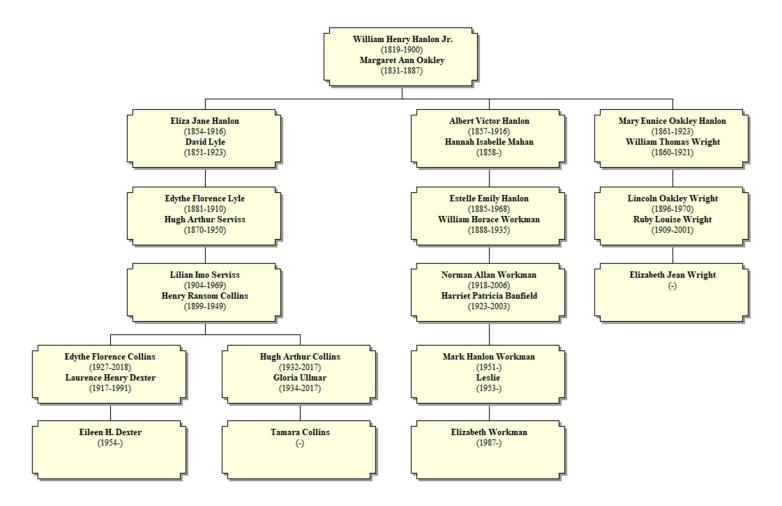


I added both Tamara and Eileen to my RootsMagic database, and then created a chart showing how I am related to them:



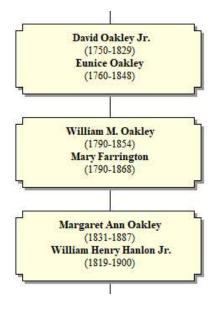
We all are descended from Miles Oakley VI (1696-1763) and his wife Sarah Tippetts (1700-1800). This Miles Oakley was a great-grandson of the *Oakley-Browne* couple.

I also used RootsMagic to create a chart showing how Eileen and Tamara are related to Mark Workman, Elizabeth Workman, and Jeani Trana:



All of these individuals are descended from Margaret Ann Oakley (1831-1887) and her husband William Henry Hanlon Jr. (1819-1900).

Now let me add an interesting factoid about this branch of the *Oakey* family. Margaret Ann Oakley's paternal grandparents were David Oakley Jr. (1750-1829) and Eunice Oakley (1760-1848):



This is NOT a case of not knowing Eunice's maiden name and just calling her by her married name of Eunice Oakley. Her maiden name really was *Oakley*. And David and Eunice were "double first-cousins". Two *Oakley* brothers (David and

William) married two *Hunt* sisters (Sarah and Eunice). The children of these two couples were David Oakley Jr. and Eunice Oakley, and that's right – they married each other! I wrote about this quite a while ago – see:

http://www.burksoakley.com/QuincyOakleyGenealogy/33-DoubleFirstCousinsOakleyFamily.pdf

Now let me return to Tamara Hunt and Eileen Dexter....

I looked at my DNA match with Tamara Hunt, and then I searched through the listing of <u>our</u> "Shared DNA Matches". This group includes:

- John Bever
- Howard Bever
- Cassidy Prentiss Howard Bever's granddaughter
- Donald Baird
- Andrew Baird Donald Baird's sone
- Mark Workman
- Elizabeth Workman Mark Workman's daughter
- Jeani Trana
- Kathy Hill Orr
- Betty Hill Jackson Kathy Hill Orr's sister
- Ann Hill Winningham Kathy Hill Orr's sister
- Sheila Jackson Porter Betty Hill Jackson's daughter
- Sharon Jackson Dragotto Betty Hill Jackson's daughter
- Dominick Caldarulo Kathy Hill Orr's first-cousin once-removed
- Bill Earls Kathy Hill Orr's first-cousin
- Leslie Earls Maher Bill Earls' daughter

All of these people are descendants of the *Oakley-Browne* couple, and I'm 99% sure that all of them have the *Oakley-Browne* DNA segment on Chromosome 15.

I'm really blown away by all this! Miles Oakley (1612-1672) and Mary Browne (1607-1682) were from Saffron Walden, England, and they immigrated to America in the mid-1600's. And now I am finding all of these distant *Oakley* relatives who all have an autosomal DNA segment that came from this couple. Amazing!

Now, if I can only get Tamara and Eileen to upload their DNA profiles to the free GEDmatch.com website...