AP European History and Owen Genealogy
By Carla Grune

My daughter is taking AP European History. One night she asked for my help on the Industrial Revolution in Great Britain. During our study session we encountered Robert Owen (1771-1858). This was very exciting for both of us to learn about a potential relative. Robert Owen was a self made cotton manufacturer who helped create the Grand National Consolidated Trades Union. He pioneered in industrial relations by combining firm discipline with concern for the health and safety and hours of his workers. In 1834 he organized one of the largest and most visionary of the early national unions. This union eventually collapsed, but his efforts helped set the stage for workers in Great Britain.

Robert Owen was helpful in changing working conditions during the Industrial Revolution in Great Britain. He testified in 1816 before an investigating committee on the working conditions based upon his experience. He stated that “very strong facts” demonstrated that employing children under ten years of age as factory workers was “injurious to the children, and not beneficial to the proprietors.” His testimony rang true because he had already raised the age of employment in his mills and was promoting education for young children. Workers provided graphic testimony at these hearings as the reformers pressed Parliament to pass corrective laws. Owen’s efforts scored some important successes, which led to the Factory Act of 1833. This limited the factory workday for children between nine and thirteen, to 8 hours and that of adolescents between fourteen and eighteen to 12 hours.

Robert Owen made an impact during the Industrial Revolution. I would like to know of other famous Owen’s or Owens’ that made impacts in business, social change, the arts or movies, and possible lineage information. If any member has a famous Owen connection I would love to publish that information. Also, if any member has information on Owen folklore, food, culture or art work, I would love to publish that information as well.

Thanks to my daughter and her AP European History class, we learned about a famous revolutionary Owen.
The President’s Message
from Thomas E. Owen

Greetings Owen Clan,

I continue to receive on a regular basis applications for membership in the Owen Family Association (OFA). I find this very exciting. In fact one or two have mentioned up coming vacations to Wales to do more Owen family research, how exciting!

One of my goals for the OFA is to enhance the website to make it more informative and interactive. As you all know we do work on a budget. It would be great if we could find an association member or maybe a close friend who would be willing to donate their time in helping us up grade our website. I would also like to ask all of you; what would you like to see on the website.

As technology moves forward taking advantage of all the new tools at our disposal helps us to build bridges with our family searches. We certainly want to thank Whit Athey for his valuable services with the Owen Family DNA project. There are too many websites to mention here that also facilitate family research. I would like to use the OFA newsletter as a tool as well. If you have unique Owen family information we want to hear from you.

Tom Owen

owenassoc@gmail.com
Update: The Owen DNA Project
By Whit Athey

Interest in DNA testing for genealogical purposes has grown tremendously over the last few years. At the end of 2007, Family Tree DNA (FTDNA) had 3862 surname projects with over 86,000 participants. 38 of these projects have over 200 participants, Clan Donald (McDonald) being the largest, and 153 have over 100 participants. The Owen project ranks as the 113th largest project.

We have three new participants who have joined in the last quarter, there has been one new transfer from the Genographic Project, and there have been several upgrades to more markers for existing participants (especially in Owen Group 5). One new participant has been added to each of Owen Groups 2, 7, and 11, while another presently has no matches in the project. The results table will be included with this newsletter as an Appendix (pdf file) for those who receive the newsletter by e-mail, and the results may always be viewed at our web site: http://home.comcast.net/~whitathey/indexo.htm.

We have yet another haplogroup that has made an appearance in the project, Haplogroup K2. This is a very rare haplogroup in Britain, though at least one famous person with British roots was a member of this haplogroup, President Thomas Jefferson. Our Owen participant does not closely match Jefferson’s Y-STR values, however. Haplogroup R1b remains the largest in the project with 89 participants. The haplogroup breakdown in the project is now Haplogroup R1b, 76%; J2, 9%; I1a, 7%; G2, 3%; and just less than 1% each (representing single individuals) in Haplogroups E3b, I1b1b, K2, J1, and R1a. The haplogroup nomenclature follows that of the International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG), whose Y haplogroup page may be found at http://www.isogg.org/tree/index.html. People in different haplogroups cannot possibly be related in a patrilineal manner in the last several thousand years. Even within haplogroups, there may be unrelated families. For example, there appear to be five separate lineages within our group of eight Haplogroup I1a participants, and there are many more within R1b.

Participants sometimes ask about the advantages of testing 37 markers versus 25. At 25 markers, we can usually determine the membership in the various Owen groups, but once the groupings are established, we actually want to see some mutations in order to help determine the relationships within the group. The third panel of markers offered by FTDNA (markers 26-37) has several markers that have much higher mutation rates than the average marker. The probability of a mutation somewhere in the 37 marker set is about 17% per generation, whereas the probability of a mutation somewhere in the 25 marker set is about 7% per generation. So, adding the last panel significantly increases the probability of finding mutations within a group of related people. Interestingly, a two-part marker from the third panel named CDYα/CDYβ actually contributes about a fifth of this total 17% probability by itself. The bottom line is that the third panel of markers is quite a good deal in terms of what it offers for the money. You can upgrade from 25 to 37 markers for $49.

New e-mail lists have been established for Owen Groups 2 and 5, and Group 5 has been particularly active in exchanging information. Owen Group 5 is a model of what we want from the project—the DNA has pointed the way by showing that a group of nine individuals are related, and now these individuals are actively reviving their traditional genealogy research by exchanging information with the others in the group, seeking to figure out how they are connected and who their common ancestor may have been. I have been encouraging the larger groups in the project to exchange information in this way, but if there are smaller groups who would like to start a similar exchange, please let me know.
Reverend Robert Owen Lineage  
(Prince George’s County Maryland)  
by Scott S. Felgenhauer, felgyscott@yahoo.com  

The Owen (Owens) family is of ancient Welch origin. There were Kings and Princes by that name in North and South Wales and in Powys. Most, if not all, of the Owen in the United States are known to be descended from Welch Nobility. Owen emigrants to America began to arrive before 1650, settling in Connecticut, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. Few dates are available for the early years, but the following information has been determined from the records available.

LEWIS OWEN (1)  
Lewis Owen, son of Owen and Gwenhwyfer Owen, was married to Margaret Puleston, daughter of Robert Puleston, Vicar of Gresford. Lewis held the office of Cwrt Plas Y Def, Dolgelly, Vice Chamberlain of North Wales, Baron of the Exchequer of North Wales, H.S.M. 1546 and 1555, M.P.M. 1547-1552. Known children born to this marriage are:  
(2) John Lewis  
(2) Hugh Lewis  
(2) Edward  
(2) Griffith  
(2) Robert  

Baron Lewis Owen was murdered by the Mawddy banditti on 11 Oct. 1555.

JOHN LEWIS OWEN (2)  
John Lewis Owen, son of Lewis and Margaret Owen, married Ursula Mytton, daughter of Richard Mytton, Lord of Mawddy. John Lewis Owen of Llwyn, near Dolgelly, became H.S.M. in 1565, M.P.M. in 1562. The names of their children are unknown at this time.

HUGH LEWIS OWEN (2)  
Hugh Lewis Owen, son of Lewis and Margaret Owen, married Catherine Pugh, daughter of John Pugh of Mathafarn. Hugh Lewis Owen became an Attorney at Law of Cae’rberllan. Known children born to this marriage are:  
(3) John  
(3) Evan  
(3) Roland  
(3) Edward  
(3) Ann  
(3) Ursula  

No further information at this time.
EDWARD OWEN (2)
Edward Owen, son of Lewis and Margaret Owen, married Elin the daughter of Robert of Llanaber. Edward was known as Edward of Hengwrt. Children born to this marriage are:

(3) John
(3) Robert
(3) Richard
(3) Elizabeth
(3) Margaret
(3) Catherine
(3) Ann
(3) Gwen
(3) Jane

MARGARET OWEN (3)
Margaret Owen, daughter of Edward of Hengwrt and Elin Owen, married Howel Vaughan, son of Gruffydd of Gwengraig and Catherine Vaughan. Known children born to this marriage are:

(4) Robert 1592

ROBERT VAUGHAN (4)
Robert Vaughan, son of Howel and Catherine Vaughan, married Catherine Nanney, daughter of Gruffydd Nanney. Catherine was born 12 Dec. 1594. Robert Vaughan of Hengwrt, as he was known, was a celebrated genealogist and antiquary. Known children born to this marriage are:

(5) Howell
(5) Ynyr
(5) Hugh
(5) Griffith
(5) Jane
(5) Margaret

Catherine died 25 Jan. 1662, Robert 16 May 1667, Ynyr was accidentally shot in 1688 and Griffith died 12 Aug. 1700.

JANE VAUGHAN (5)
Jane Vaughan, daughter of Robert and Catherine Vaughan, married Robert Owen, son of Humphrey Owen. More on this family under Robert and Jane Owen.

GRIFFITH OWEN (2)
Griffith Owen, son of Lewis and Margaret Owen, married Elizabeth, daughter of David Lloyd of Peniarth.
ROBERT OWEN (2)

Robert Owen, son of Lewis and Margaret Owen, married Elizabeth, granddaughter of Morgan of Bronyclwydwr. Robert of Dolserau became an Attorney in the Court of Marches of Wales. Known children born to this marriage are:

(3) Humphrey

HUMPHREY OWEN (3)

Humphrey Owen, son of Robert of Dolserau and Elizabeth Owen, was married but the name of his wife is unknown at this time. Known children born to this marriage are:

(4) Henry
(4) Robert 1612

ROBERT OWEN (4)

Robert Owen, son of Humphrey Owen, was born in 1612. Robert married Jane Vaughan, daughter of Robert and Catherine Vaughan. Robert Vaughan was a great-grandson of Baron Lewis Owen, as was Robert Owen. Known children born to this marriage are:

(5) Lewis
(5) Edward
(5) John
(5) Griffith
(5) Roland
(5) Robert

In the Book of Memorials of the Haverford Monthly Mtg. may be read the memorial prepared by John Humphrey as to Robert Owen and his wife Jane. He said, “They were the man and woman to my knowledge that opened the door for a reformation of religion in the country (Merionethshire) where they lived, after the Civil War between King and Parliament began.” Rolan Ellis also testified as to their worth: “after the time of Oliver and Richard Cromwell, Robert was commissioned Captain of the Militia, and Governor of Bewmares, a seaport town upon the Irish coast.” But when Robert Owen was required to take the Oath of Allegiance and Supremacy, he refused, and was imprisoned for five years. His wife then was the mother of nine sons, and her relatives, “Yt then bore ye chieffest sway in ye whole country”, urged her to prevail on her husband to yield, and save his estate for his children, but she declined to interfere. After he was released they emigrated to America in the ship “Vine”, of Liverpool, arriving at Philadelphia 17 Sep 1684. They settled on Duck Creek, in New Castle County, Delaware. Robert and Jane died within five days of each other in May 1685.

LEWIS OWEN (5)

Lewis Owen, son of Robert and Jane Owen, came to America with his parents in 1684. After their death he returned to Wales.
EDWARD OWEN (5)
Edward Owen, son of Robert and Jane Owen, was residing in Dolserey Merioneth and described as “Gentleman”, when he bought by deed dated 1 April 1682, 312 1/2 acres of land through Thomas & Jones. Edward came to America with the Hugh Roberts’ party in the ship “Morning Star” of Chester, Thomas Hayes Master, sailing from Mosson in September 1683. After a voyage of two months, uneventful except for several burials at sea, they arrived in the Delaware and at Philadelphia 16-20 November 1683. Edward found his land laid out on the Schuykill, 153 1/4 acres, and the balance in Goahen Twp. He probably never resided on this property, as he sold it to his brother, Dr. Griffith Owen, by deed dated 9 January 1684-85. According to the deed he was then living on Duck Creek in New Castle County, probably near his parents. Edward evidently did not join his father in his affiliation with the Quakers, as it is a matter of record that his son Robert was sent back to Wales to be educated for the ministry of the Church of England. It appears that Robert was born in Wales and came to America with his father in 1683. Other records indicate that in 1684 Edward married Hannah Baxter of Talbot County, Maryland and they had a son. Therefore his known children would be:

(6) Robert 1672
(6) Owen

Edward died in 1716.

This lineage will be continued in the June issue featuring Reverend Robert Owen and his sons Edward and John.

Browsing Old Cemeteries

On the grave of Ezekial Aikle in East Dalhousie Cemetery, Nova Scotia:
Here lies Ezekial Aikle, Age 102.
Only The Good Die Young.

In a London, England cemetery:
Here lies Ann Mann, Who lived an old maid but died an old Mann. Dec. 8, 1767

In a Ruidoso, New Mexico, cemetery:
Here lies Johnny Yeast... Pardon me for not rising.
In a Uniontown, Pennsylvania, cemetery:
Here lies the body of Jonathan Blake.
Stepped on the gas instead of the brake.

A lawyer's epitaph in England:
Sir John Strange.
Here lies an honest lawyer,
and that is Strange.

John Penny's epitaph in the Wimborne, England, cemetery:
Reader, if cash thou art in want of any,
Dig 6 feet deep and thou wilt find a Penny.

In a cemetery in Hartscombe, England:
On the 22nd of June, Jonathan Fiddle went out of tune.

In a Ribbesford, England cemetery:
Anna Wallace
The children of Israel wanted bread, And the Lord sent them manna. Clark Wallace wanted a wife, And the Devil sent him Anna.

**GenCircle Users Update**

For those readers who use GenCircle, I received this update on the product and am passing it along for your information. Your Editor, Carla Grune

Dear GenCircles User,

We have a very exciting announcement to share with you! Pearl Street Software, maker of GenCircles and Family Tree Legends, has merged with MyHeritage.com. In the first of many positive developments that will come from this merger, Family Tree Legends and GenCircles are now 100% free!

Why did you merge with MyHeritage.com?
So we can grow! The development team from Pearl Street Software has joined the much larger MyHeritage team so we can bring you amazing new tools to aid your search. MyHeritage brings vast resources that will enable technologies like Smart Matching to greatly improve, to the benefit of everyone!
What will happen to GenCircles and Family Tree Legends?
GenCircles, the Family Tree Legends software program, and the Family Tree Legends Records Collection are now free. That's right - in one announcement, we have made the highest-rated genealogy software program, the massively popular GenCircles site, and over 400 million records in the Family Tree Legends Records Collection completely free! This is a significant day for genealogists everywhere!

What about support?
With the backing of MyHeritage, we can now offer much improved support. For email support on our various services, please email ftl@myheritage.com <mailto:ftl@myheritage.com> for FTL or gencircles@myheritage.com <mailto:gencircles@myheritage.com> for GenCircles.

What else can we look forward to?
- MyHeritage has made significant improvements to our Smart Matching technology in the past 6 months and these improvements are being released now for the first time.
- MyHeritage's Family Tree Builder 2.0 has just been released and contains many of the technologies found in Family Tree Legends. Family Tree Builder has support for real-time Smart Matching and is available in 17 languages. You can automatically import your FTL file into Family Tree Builder if you choose to. You can use both programs completely for free - we urge you to see which one is right for you!
- MyHeritage has launched an initiative to map and connect all of the world's family trees using Smart Matching technology, and is well on their way with more than 100,000 trees!

Can we trust MyHeritage as a good steward for our data?
One of the reasons we chose to merge with MyHeritage.com was their absolute respect for users' data. GenCircles built its reputation on respecting its users and their data - we are proud to say that MyHeritage.com shares this respect with us!

This is an exciting day in our company's history and we couldn't have done it without the help of our amazing users! The joined teams of MyHeritage and Pearl Street Software are committed more than ever to providing the best genealogy products and services, and keeping them free!

Best Regards,
Cliff Shaw
President & CEO
Pearl Street Software
Queries, We want Queries!

Please send queries or information on queries to Carla Grune, cgrune@epatentmanager.com or mail to 784 S. Villier Ct. Virginia Beach, VA 23452.

Janet A. Owens (jaowens4230@yahoo.com) seeks information on John Owens whose wife Martha Morgan died 1850, Indiana. Several children were living with Morgan relatives, John "went away" according to John William Owens who came to Greene County, Iowa with an uncle, Thomas B. Morgan. She has no other information as to where they were from, or where other children went. (Janet A. Owens, 403 W. Lincolnway Jefferson, IA 50129)

Stephen Reese (reiss_steve@yahoo.com) seeks information on the connection between Ezra Owen (3/17/1770 -- 11/11/1859) married to Lydia Vance) and his possible grandfather John Owen of Virginia, and the John Owen (1741 - 1819) who was born in Halifax, Virginia and died in Chester, South Carolina that started his Owen family tree?

Owen Family News and Source Book Order Form

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**Send this amount by check or money order payable to Owen Family Association, c/o Jane Owen 4190 Hurricane Shores Dr. Barton, AR 72015 (Please include a copy of this form with your order) These CD’s are in Adobe PDF format and can be read on your computer by Adobe Reader software. If this software is not installed on your computer, it’s free from Adobe.com. **
Welcome New Members

*Members, if you have information about these Owen(s) lines, please contact our new member(s).*

**Marcella Chapple (#418)** 1402 Wooten Dr., Austin, TX 78757-8327 (512) 453-6730; mchapple@swbell.net. Earliest ancestor: Sarah Ann Owen 1845-1914, m. Harry (Henry) Chapple, buried at Christoval, TX. (She doesn't have proof of parents; would like any help if someone has info.)

**Allyne Owen Schubert (#419)** 724 Stadium Drive, Hobart, OK 73651-2014 (530) 726-2631; allyneschubert@hotmail.com. Earliest ancestor: Ashley Owen b. 1794 SC, m. H. Farmer; son is Daniel S. Owen b. 1843 AL- d. 1926.

**Margaret Owen Thorpe (#420)** 834 Van Buren Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104 (651) 297-9293; Margaret@owenideas.com. Earliest ancestor: Mosbey Owen b. before 1755, d ca 1820 in VA or NC; a DNA test shows belonging to Owen Group #1 Thomas Owen of James River, VA

**Joyce Lynne Kent (#421)** 5017 Dellwood Drive, Rossville, GA 30741 (706) 858-8974; joyckent@bellsouth.net. Earliest ancestor: James Alexander Owens b. 1822 Pickens, SC; m. Lugany C. Allred

**John C. Owen (#272)** 3403 Lakeshore Blvd., Jacksonville, FL 32210 (904) 388-2069; owenjc@bellsouth.net. Earliest ancestor: Calvin Owen b. 1808 NY – d 1897; m. Rachel Hile

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

For information or an application for membership, please e-mail jmoeller@inil.com or write to: Owen Family Association c/o Josephine Moeller 401 S. 14th St., St. Charles, IL 60174.

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**Do You Know The Origin?**

By Carla Grune

On the first of January my family would eat a traditional meal, called the “Poor Man’s Supper” This custom was passed down by my Owen grandparents. The meal consisted of collard greens, black-eye peas, corn bread and a meat. Each food item represented or symbolized good blessings for the new year. The collard greens symbolized money, however I do not re-member what the other food items represented. If any reader knows what these food items represent and the origins of this meal, please contact me at cgrune@epatentmanager.com or at 784 S. Villier Ct. Virginia Beach, VA 23452. I would like to continue “Do You Know The Origin?” for future articles. If any readers have stories on Owen eateries, art, folklore or culture and need answers or the origin of their stories please send your stories to me. I look forward to receiving and publishing your information.
The Owen Family Association was organized in 1981.

The objectives of the association are:
- To establish and document as complete a list of descendants of Owen and allied families as possible.
- To collect a narrative history of individual family lines of descent.
- To compile and maintain a listing of cemeteries, homes and other buildings and sites associated with Owen and allied families.
- To publish and distribute a periodic newsletter.
- To bring members of the family association together for periodic reunions.
- To aid association members to establish their family line and assist them in joining hereditary and patriotic societies, if they so desire.
- To ultimately produce a volume documenting the verified family histories.
- To provide publications to Genealogy Libraries in order to assist Owen researchers.

Annual dues of $10.00 are payable January 1st. The Owen Family News is published quarterly and is subject to copyright.