

# NUCKOLLS NEWS

## Official Newsletter of the Nuckolls Worldwide Kindred Society

Editor: Sandi Koscak, 314 Hope Rd, Helena, MT 59602; 406-458-5111; sandi.j.koscak@gmail.com

The Nuckolls News is published quarterly by the Nuckolls Worldwide Kindred Society for the benefit of our members, and for all who have an interest in the surnames NUCKOLLS/NUCKOLS/NUCHOLS/NUCKLES/KNUCKLES/NUCKOLES/, etc. The Society was formed in 1995 by Sandi Koscak, Adrian Hopkins and Edward Reynolds in an effort to reprint the book "First Virginia Nuckolls and Kindred" by Bertha Nuckolls including an index which was not in the publication. When the cost of reprinting was beyond a budget on a personal level, they decided to form a Society to raise the funds for reprinting the book. We wanted to also include our direct lines to include in the new publication, and the project soon became so popular, that many people contacted me with their lines to also be included. The book which was originally 175 pages then became a major publication with over 1200 pages. We have published the newsletter 4 times yearly since the Society was founded.

Most of the NUCKOLLS families in North America come from either of two origins. One comes from a story from the granddaughter of Nathaniel Nuckolls. "For over three hundred years, there have been Nuckols families in Scotland, so James could have very well been from there. Whatever his roots, James was a yeoman, a man who worked for years to earn the right to a piece of land. A small piece, by the standards of the James River planters, but land of his own, that may still be in the possession of his descendants, some three hundred years later. A letter copied Aug 31, 1957 by Bertha Nuckolls, written by Ann Elizabeth Nuckolls, daughter of Nathaniel Nuckolls, granddaughter of Thomas Nuckolls " ....his ancestors came from Dunfermline, Scotland, and settled in Virginia.""



Another source appears here: History of Ohio, American Historical Society, Chicago, 1925. Section V pg 302 "While analysis of the surname Nuckols seems to indicate a remote German origin, the American branch of the family traces its lineage to a sturdy Scotchman, who was a substantial shipbuilder in Scotland, where he maintained his home in the City of Glasgow. According to well established family tradition there were nine Nuckols brothers who came from Scotland to America, and their posterity is now scattered about in different states of the union. Investigation made by representatives of later generations of the family all seem to indicate a common ancestor, the Glasgow shipbuilder. " The Ross Co, Ohio biography of James Austin Nuckols proudly attests to the Scottish shipbuilder from Glasgow.

From the chronological history of Scotland we find that 1684 The first trans-Atlantic voyage made by a Clyde ship (The "George") when a vessel sailed from Greenock employed on a special mission to America with 22 persons transported to Carolina for attending conventiclers and 'being disaffected to Government'. In 1719 First Greenock based vessel (built at Crawforddyke in 1719) crosses Atlantic. It was part of the Darien expedition, having been fitted out at Cartsdye in 1697. (This expedition was to Panama)

Because our first records of Nuckolls are 1657 York County, 1689 in New Kent Co and 1702 in Hanover, the "Scottish Shipbuilder" would have had to come to America prior to 1657, prior to the time Scotland was able to produce sea-going vessels. See history of Greenock <http://www.greenock-town.co.uk/history.html> and history of Glasgow <http://www.scotland.org/about/innovation-and-creativity/features/education/maritime.html>

Which brings us to the second story handed down by family members that they were all from England.....

*Welcome to the Nuckolls Worldwide Kindred Society*

*Researching Nuckolls, Nuckols, Nuckles, Nuckels, Nuchols, Knuckles, Nuckoles*



## NUCKOLLS Of England

### *Legend of the Nuckols Rose*

From a self- published book by Frances C Griffin, 1313 Butts Station Road, Chesapeake, VA 23320 entitled "Nuckles of Virginia" "It says by tradition in the Nuckles family that three brothers came from York England. They were merchants. Their names were John, James and William. They came to Jamestown Virginia. They, with the colonists came over and established the first permanent English colony in America....." Further support of this story is found in **THE NEW RIVER FRONTIER SETTLEMENT ON THE VIRGINIA-NORTH CAROLINA BORDER 1760-1820** by Paula Hathaway Anderson-Green\* Published in the Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, V86: pgs. 413-431 ,1978.

In Pioneer Settlers, (by Benjamin Floyd Nuckolls), Nuckolls states that according to family tradition three Nuckolls brothers from York, England, came to Jamestown, VA; their descendants spread out in Virginia. From the brother John came a line into Louisa Co., with a John who m. Mary Garland circa 1776. Then circa 1790 John and Mary's family moved from Louisa to New River on Meadow Creek, following a cousin Charles Nuckolls, who came in 1780. Eventually John and Mary returned to Louisa, but several sons remained in the Grayson area, as did descendants (some moved on to TN and KY)

Perhaps there is more romance than truth.

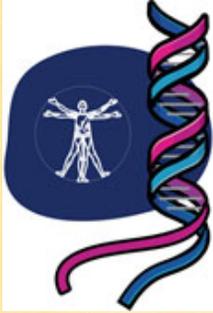
"John Nuckolls married Agatha Bullock in Virginia, perhaps in Dinwiddie County. The Nuckolls family came over from England and settled in Virginia. Their history runs back to 1452, when the "War of the Roses" began. The house of York led one faction and the house of Lancaster the other. They were adherents to the house of York, the emblem of which was the white rose. One family that sided with York in that struggle was named Nuckolls. When the original Nuckolls emigrated to America he brought a bush of that rose with him. Each member of the family kept a bush of this famous rose. When John Nuckolls and his wife Agatha, came to South Carolina, they brought the rose with them and planted it at Whig Hill, near Grindall Shoals. From that plant, their descendants got cuttings or roots, and several members of the family had the white rose until 1860, when sentiment was knocked out of the hearts of many of our people. If the Rose of York is now living, it is at the residence of John D Jeffries, who owns the W T Nuckolls homestead. "Aunt Nancy " Dawkins had the rose until the time of her death, about 1861 or 1862, and T D Littlejohn now owns the famous homestead."

## NUCKOLLS COAT OF ARMS

The arms has very interesting meaning. The colors denote truth, justice, peace and virtuous qualities, wisdom and steadfastness. The gold chief of the shield denotes illustrious deeds, elevation of mind, domination, and authority. The three Cornish choughs\* are the emblem of long life. It is the king of crows, a carnivorous bird. The silver pales symbolize military strength and fortitude given to those who defend cities, or who had supported his government of their sovereigns by standing up rightly for prince or country. Engrailed signifies on land or earth. In crest, the ear of golden wheat, we find symbolized that the bearer deserves well for his hospitality and it is also an allusion to plenty. \*Cornish Chough: is called "the king of crows." "...may betoken the bearer thereof to be a man of stratagems to the disadvantage of his enemies." Might (also) betoken "watchful activity for friends."



Source.... "Pioneer Settlers of Grayson Co, VA" pg 93 and "History of Grindal Shoals" by J B Bailey



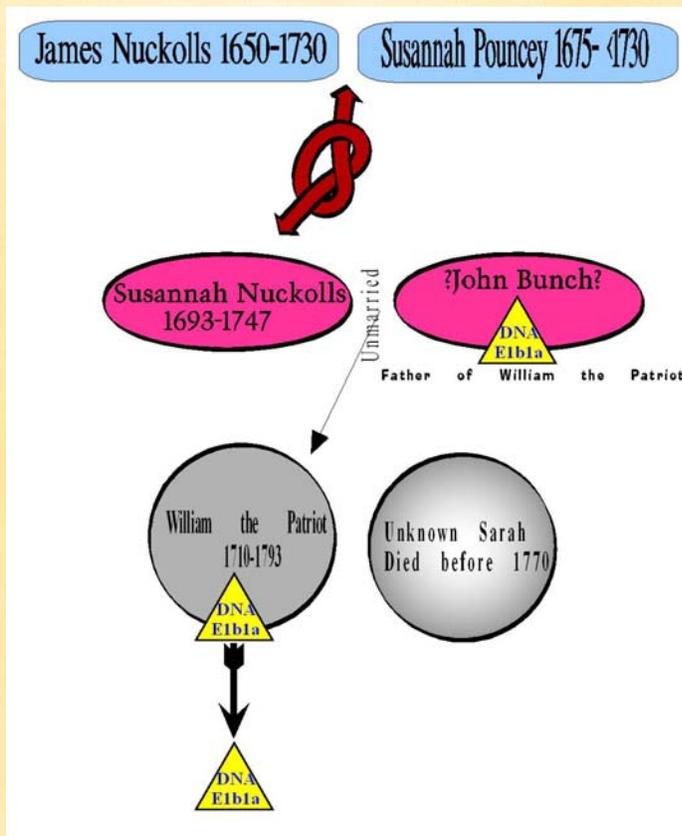
# DNA NEWS

The Nuckolls Worldwide Kindred Society began a DNA project 3 years ago in order to try and connect some families who were not documented to be descended from the immigrant ancestor, James Nuckolls who signed the Blissland Complaint in April 1677.

The DNA project began with descendants from the lines of Silvester Nuchols (VA-NC-TN) and John Nuckles of North Carolina. DNA results confirmed they had the same ancestor as recent as 6-8 generations, which made these two most likely brothers having the same father. As of this date, we have not proven their connection, but have a likely candidate in Charles Nuckols who lives in same county of Warren NC on the tax list from 1771—1786. The William Nuckols in Warren Co, NC in 1715 is the possible father of Charles. William’s date of birth would match with the son William of the immigrant who was born c1768. Although no confirmed documentation, all of these dates and locations seem to have a nice fit.

With other test results, we were able to determine what seems to be a merging line of African American descent. DNA results with Haplogroups of **E1b1a** are of African descent.

Proven the William the Patriot the son of Susannah Pouncey. Susannah the daughter of James Nuckolls. The father of William a likely BUNCH since 36 markers match for DNA. See [Will of James Nuckolls](#) and read Indenture of [William the Patriot](#). Both published in this current newsletter.



Recent DNA testing from a Descendant of William Knight Nuckolls reveals the male chromosome matching the line of NUCHOLS and NUCKOLLS. What does this mean? Another big mess. ALL OTHER descendants of Wm the Patriot’s children have tested with A1b1a [African American]. What does this mean?

We need further marker testing to determine, but it seems Wm Knight may not be the same Wm mentioned in the will of Wm the Patriot. I read through all indentures and will and land records and a Wm is mentioned, but no other indication of it confirming Wm Knight. Can Society members comment?

To encourage marker testing, see page 17 of today’s newsletter.

## Books and Materials Offered by NWK



### BOOKS

#### First Virginia Nuckolls & Kindred by Bertha Nuckolls

Book is out of print, and is not copyrighted, so the Society offers copies of the pages. Bertha Nuckolls died before finishing this book and so it was completed and edited by Sally Stetson Tongren. I assume Sally and husband Hale Nuckolls Tongren are both still living (as of 2008), as I do not find them in the SDDI. This book was printed by Thomas Todd Company in Boston Mass. originally and the dedication reads: Dedication to Benjamin Floyd Nuckolls, Ruth Nuckolls Johnson and Bertha Nuckolls, The historians of the Nuckolls family who believed that "The long toil of the brave is not lost in darkness." 146 pages. \$15.00

#### First Virginia Nuckolls & Kindred Book II

Over 900 pages and has a hard bound cover. The are also many old family photos. The Book may be ordered from Higginson Books. 148 Washington St, Salem, MA01970. 978-745-7170. It is now available to be ordered on line at [www.higginsonbooks.com](http://www.higginsonbooks.com).

#### First Virginia Nuckolls & Kindred Book II Addendum

The Nuckolls Society has added thousands of additional names and many family lines that did not appear in the first published book in 2000. The new book will have the newly discovered connections and many family lines that were not included in the first book. It is about the same size and will include much more research material. We are now collecting payment for the addendum which will cost 79.95 plus 5.00 for media mail shipping.

#### Kentucky Knuckles

New book provides all of the research and documentation that proved Obediah Nuckles and Overton Knuckles were one and the same person. Includes all of his descendants known today. This book was a limited print and sold out immediately. A recent discount in printing fees made it possible to print 14 additional copies of this book. So if you missed out on the first one, or wish family members to have a copy, now is your chance! \$43.00 Includes shipping and handling.

NOW also can be ordered in spiral bound soft cover for \$29 (\$26 for members), which includes shipping. Over 300 pages

### DOCUMENT DVD



Includes hundreds of family photos, tombstones, 1000's of scanned documents, birth, marriage, death certificates, deeds, wills, military documents, and all past newsletters, as well as source documents and letters. Each year we add at least a hundred if not more new documents as they continue to be released. For the contents of this year's 2010 Version 10.0, the list of documents can be viewed at <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nuck141/Contents2009.txt>

Members \$5 Non Members \$15.00

### ALL Nuckolls Society Books on CD

First Virginia Nuckolls & Kindred by Bertha Nuckolls

First Virginia Nuckolls & Kindred Book II

First Virginia Nuckolls & Kindred Book II Addendum

Kentucky Knuckles- Ancestors & Descendants of Obediah Overton Nuckolls

Pioneer Settlers of Grayson County Virginia by B F Nuckolls

All Society Newsletters 1998-2010

Complete GEDCOM 28643 individuals, 262,000 text note records

All descendants of James Nuckolls, the immigrant, in searchable PDF format.

*Nuckolls Society New Web Pages Now User Friendly!!!*

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nuck141/>

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Well, this newsletter is coming to you all from New Mexico. We are in Our little vacation home back where we used to live in Truth or Consequences/ Elephant Butte Lake area. We brought the jet skis for the summer and have been having a great time visiting with old friends, fishing, boating, and enjoying the 360 days a year sunshine. I hear at home in Helena last week was rain mixed with snow, and cold temps... So while we have been here, we have decided to make the move back here permanently. We Have agonized over this for the last 3 years and been unable to make the Decision. I guess being here every day made the decision for us. Of course



Tom hates the heat and I hate the cold. He has agreed to make the move for me...(grin). So after we attend the Koscak family reunion on the 19th-22nd, we will be headed home and putting up the "for sale" sign..

For those of you who are anxiously awaiting the 1940 census at ancestry, I have some great news. The LDS site it WAY AHEAD of transcriptions and have them completed for VA, CO, KS, DE, ME, DC, NV, WY, OR, FL, AK and AZ. And the good news is those are free, no membership required.

Fredwyn Schwendeman has been busy buying a new condo in SC and moving from her home in Kentucky. She and her mother Lillian Creech are responsible for the majority of the Kentucky Knuckles research. Along with Hildegard Hendrickson. Both gals are a valuable asset to our research efforts. On Fredwyn's trips back and forth, she has been stopping in several counties obtaining documents. A big thank you from the Society for her extra efforts to help.

### NUCKOLLS SOCIETY CONTACT INFORMATION

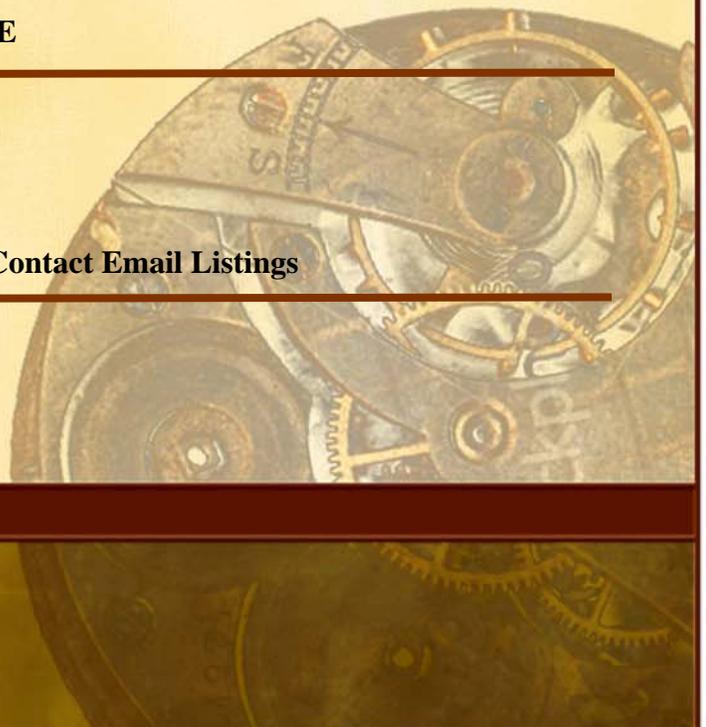
David Nuckols—President	dnuckols@higherspeed.net
Bruce Nuckols —Vice President	bjbruce11@cox.net
Judy Lowe - Board of Directors	julo@scrtc.com
Sandi Koscak—Secty-Treas –Web Host-Editor	sandi.j.koscak@gmail.com

### NEW or RETURNING MEMBERS SINCE LAST ISSUE

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### ADDITIONS and CORRECTIONS to Nuckolls Family Contact Email Listings

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**JOIN OR RENEW YOUR NWK MEMBERSHIP**

Any of our readers who are not now members of the Nuckolls Worldwide Kindred Society are invited to join us. Benefits of membership include four (4) issues of the NUCKOLLS NEWS each year. You will have the benefit of free research on your family lines, even if they are not related to the Nuckolls. You will be eligible for discounts on all of the books, CD’s and materials published by the Society. By submitting at least three (new) documents in a year, you qualify for a discount on your membership. New first-time members may receive our document CD for \$5. Our memberships run from January through December of each year. If renewing or joining in mid-year, please submit pro-rated amounts on the membership form found at: <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nuck141/memberapp.html>

Please send your \$15 annual dues to NWK c/o Sandi Koscak, 314 Hope Rd, Helena, MT 59602. Checks can be made payable to NWK or Nuckolls Society. Current members on the postal mailing list have an expiration date on their address labels. New members are requested to submit their direct lineage so contact can be made when I uncover someone from under a rock.

Most all of our newsletters are delivered by an email delivery system that allows attachments. Mark Knuckles was kind enough to provide this free service for the Society. In order to receive your quarterly newsletters without disruption, you need to set your spam filters to receive mail from : NuckollsSociety@EmailList.cc. Each time you renew, you will receive a farewell message immediately followed by a welcome message. This is the system updating the expiration date of your subscription.

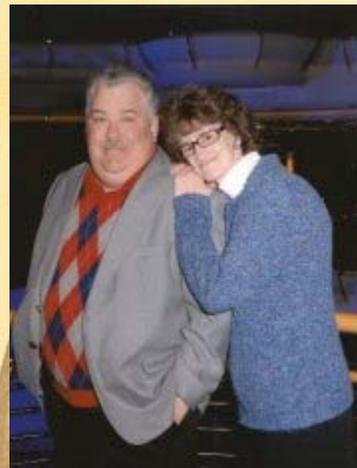
If you are not a member of our discussion, group, I encourage you to join. There are 4 lists at rootsweb: NUCKOLS-NUCKOLLS– NUCKLES & KNUCKLES. I am the moderator for all 4, so when I post a message it is sent to all 4 lists. If someone posts a message to the board, I try to intercept it and make sure the other 3 lists receive the contents also. To subscribe send an email with the word “subscribe” in the subject line to: Nuckolls-L-request@rootsweb.com (or) Nuckols-L-request@rootsweb.com (or) Nuckles-L-request@rootsweb.com (or)



# Woolum Condolences

Society member Robin Woolum recently lost his wife Donna in her long battle with cancer. We want to take the time to extend our condolences to Robin as he struggles to adapt his life to living without his best friend.

CENTERVILLE, Ind. - Donna Woolum, age 52, of Centerville, went to heaven Thursday, April 26, 2012, at her home surrounded by her family. Born March 25, 1960, in Richmond to Robert Earl and Marie Harrison Benjamin, she lived in this area most of her life. Donna was a 1978 graduate of Richmond High School. She was customer service manager at Masterbrand for over 10 years. Donna was a member of St. Mary Catholic Church, where she and her husband served as Eucharistic Ministers, and was also a member of Daughters of the American Revolution. She loved scrapbooking, genealogy, gardening, flower arranging, and painting. Donna also enjoyed writing and traveling, where she visited and photographed over 200 lighthouses. She was involved in a local cancer support group. Her faith never wavered during her illness and she was always concerned about others. Survivors include her husband and high school sweetheart, Robin Woolum, to whom she was married November 26, 1977; daughter, Monica Beth (Ricki) Via of Centerville; son, Thomas Benjamin Woolum of Centerville; grandchildren, Desirae Marie Via and Logan Jay "LJ" Via, both of Centerville; her mother; sister, Denise (John) Maitlen of Richmond; brothers, Danny (Frances) Benjamin of Texas, and Donald (Marta) Benjamin of Virginia; uncles; aunts; cousins; nieces; nephews; and many special friends that she considered to be her extended family. She was preceded in death by her father; grandparents; and a special friend, Darlene. Visitation for Donna Woolum will be from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 1, 2012, at Mills Funeral Home, 405 East Main St., Centerville. Liturgy of Christian Burial will be at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, May 2, 2012, at St. Mary Catholic Church, 710 North A St., with Father Todd Riebe officiating. Burial will be in St. Mary Catholic Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to: St. Mary Catholic Church, 240 South 6th St., Richmond, IN 47374, or American Cancer Society, Wayne County Unit, 4567 Progress Drive, Columbus, IN 47201. Condolences may be sent to the family via the guest book at [www.doanmillsfuneralhome.com](http://www.doanmillsfuneralhome.com). *Memorial contributions may be made to: St. Mary Catholic Church, 240 South 6th St., Richmond, IN 47374, or American Cancer Society, Wayne County Unit, 4567 Progress Drive, Columbus, IN 47201.*



*Prayer Card*

*One night a man had a dream.*

*In it he was walking along a beach with the Lord. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand one belonging to him, and the other to the Lord.*

*When the final scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back, at the footprints in the sand.*

*He noticed ~~many times~~ along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints, and realized that they came at the hardest and saddest time of his life. Bothered about this, he questioned the Lord saying, "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most burdensome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you the most you would leave me."*

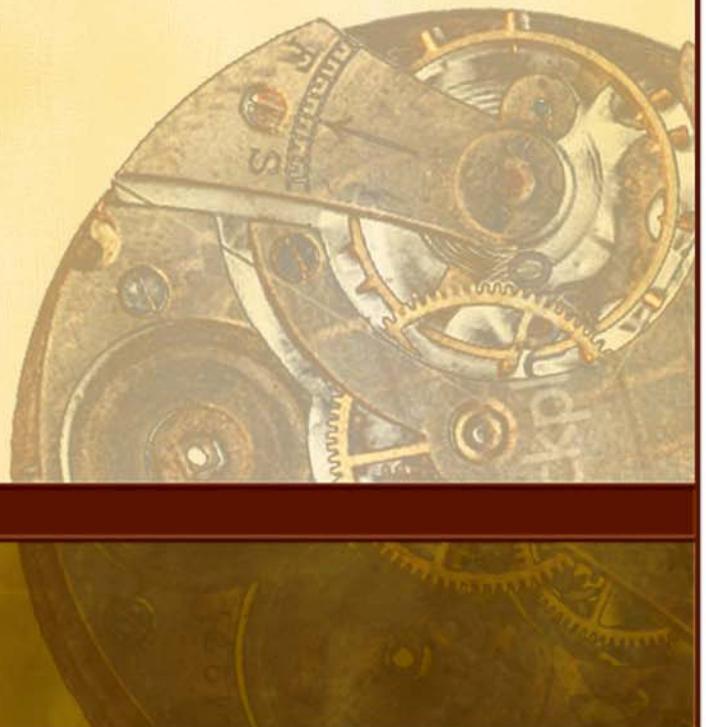
*The Lord replied "My Dear Child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of strife and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."*



*You may send your messages to Robin at [robinwoolum@comcast.net](mailto:robinwoolum@comcast.net)*

*Or 401 South Morton Ave Centerville, IN 47330*

*<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/robin.woolum?ref=profile>*



## LIFE OF A BORDER PATROL AGENT

Alfred Milton Nuckols

**A**lbert Milton Nuckols was born in Texas, most likely San Antonio or Houston. In 1910 before he decided his career move, he lived in Arizona and was working as a carpenter for a mining Company. He moved to Los Angeles, where he met and married Lois Conger on Dec 10, 1917. Lois was born to John Conger and Celestia Vandenburg in 1880 somewhere in Nebraska. She died in San Diego, CA 12/21/1931.

Albert signed his World War I Draft Registration Card on 9/12/1918 in Yuma Arizona, indicating that he left San Diego for Yuma. He named his wife Lois and said his occupation was a farmer, so he still had not realized his dream yet. The Yuma 1920 census he still lived there and was still a farmer. At some time prior to 1924 he moved to San Diego. The next time he is found is in the 1924 Voter Registration in San Diego with his wife Lois and was in Oak Grove, Aguanga, and an Immigration Officer. This is when his whole life changed. A short 2 months after he registered to vote [no party], he appeared in the San Diego Evening Tribune Newspaper Aug 24, 1924

### Rescue Couple From Death on Desert

While riding over their territory in an automobile, Alfred M Nuckols and Peter Kerr Jr, United States immigrations inspectors stationed in the vicinity of Warner's Springs, recently rescued a Los Angeles man, 56 years old, who gave his name as Forfaith, when the latter was near death from lack of water, according to reports received here. Forfaith's lips were cracked and dried and his tongue swollen from lack of water when the officers came upon him, it was stated. The dramatic rescue was made in the pass southwest of Warner's known as the "Narrows". Forfaith had traveled a long distance on foot and was 12 miles from water when found. After reviving Forfaith, the officers were told the elderly's mans wife was in a car several miles in the direction from which he had traveled, buried to the axle in the sands. The nearly exhausted man stated that he had left the car in search of water and help, leaving the little water left in the canteen in the possession of his wife. She was found in much better condition than her husband. Nuckols and Kerr aided in pulling the car from the sand, and the party returned to Warner's. After a brief rest, Forfaith and his wife returned to Los Angeles.

San Diego Union Tribune 6/19/1925 [One year later]

### Love Affair Said Cause of Fatal Duel

James A McClenney, ex-serviceman, 32, loyal to his wife and mother of this two young children, although her affections had been won from him, was willing to fight to death to avenge a trifling with those affections and he died so doing yesterday afternoon in a pistol duel with Alfred M Nuckols, a U S immigration inspector of the border patrol, according to the story told by the wife of the dead man. The duel occurred just north of Encinitas, with Nuckols inside McClenney's Tudor Ford sedan and McClenney standing on the ground beside the opened door. Mrs McClenney and the two McClenney children also were in the car, terrified witnesses of the tragedy, but escaped injury, except that Mrs McClenney bears a slight wound on the forehead, from either a bump or a grazing bullet. McClenney died with eight bullet wounds in his body, and Nuckols is in the naval hospital with four wounds that are not regarded dangerous.

Telling an apparently straight-forward story, Mrs McClenney recited the events leading up to the tragedy and the details of that to Deputy Sheriff Oliver Sexson. She and Nuckols who formerly was stationed at Aguanga in Riverside County, just over the San Diego county line, where McClenney operated a store and served as postmaster had met at a dance and he squeezed her hand, she said, and she resented it. But he did it again when he bought something at the store, and again she resented it, but he persistently paid his attentions, with flattery, until she found herself infatuated with him.

**Talk Divorces**

Finally, evidently much in love with each other, they agreed to obtain divorces, for Nuckols has a wife and two children, just as she had a husband and two children. Then Nuckols was moved to station at Del Mar. Letters passed and one of Mrs McClenneys fell into the hands of Mrs Nuckols, who, according to Mrs McClenney, induced Nuckols to promise to break off his new love affair. Nuckols, however, went to Mrs McClenney and told her he had no intention of giving her up, but asked her to proceed with their plans for divorce and marriage. Soon after this meeting, she said, she received a letter from Mrs Nuckols declaring that Nuckols had been on his knees to her and threatened to publish to the world the faithlessness of Mrs McClenney.

Now despising Nuckols, Mrs McClenney told all to her husband, and as soon as they could get someone to watch the store and post office took their children in their car and started for Del Mar to see Nuckols and obtain an explanation. He and she each carried a Remington automatic revolver holding eight shells, including one in the barrel.

Approaching Encinitas, a motorcycle with sidecar, driven by Nuckols, with R C Osborne, a fellow border patrolman of Nuckols' in the side car, passed by their automobile, and McClenney called to Nuckols, who stopped, and, leaving Osborne, walked back toward the automobile which McClenney had stopped.

**Seizes Revolver**

"There are some things we would like to get straightened out," McClenney is quoted as having said to Nuckols, walking with him to the car, where Mrs McClenney and the children were. There, Mrs McClenney moved over into the driver's seat, and McClenney asked Nuckols to get into the rear seat with the children, so that they might talk things over. As Nuckols started to get into the car, McClenney seized Nuckols' revolver and threw it out on the ground, meanwhile telling his wife to keep Nuckols, "covered". While she sat with pistol in hand, Nuckols fumbled with the tip seat as if having difficulty in getting into the rear, and suddenly grabbed the pistol from Mrs McClenney. Whether Nuckols fired first at McClenney, the wife could not say, but her husband immediately drew his pistol when Nuckols seized hers- and both the automatics were emptied by the men at each other. Nuckols probably saved himself fatal wounds by dodging from side to side as he pumped the gun empty in the duel, Mrs McClenney said. His wounds are in the shoulder, thigh, and pelvis. As silence followed the fusillade, Mrs McClenney asked of Nuckols, "Is that gun empty?" and he answered it was, and threw it on the ground as she demanded. At the same instant her husband, who had remained standing at the car door momentarily, fell to the ground. Osborne, at the sound of shots, had hastened to the car and quickly "covered" Nuckols with his own weapon, placing him under arrest. McClenney, taken to the Charles I Berry undertaking house in Oceanside, was examined by Coroner S C Kelly, who found eight bullet wounds in him. Two of these were in his chest. Others were in his arms and thighs and one bullet had severed two fingers of his right hand that held his gun.

**Wounds Not Fatal**

Nuckols was taken to a drug store at Encinitas, where Dr D B Van Wagenen removed two bullets, and was later brought in a navy ambulance to the naval hospital, as a public service patient. Mrs Nuckols, notified of the shooting soon after its occurrence hurried to Encinitas and accompanied her husband to the hospital. At the hospital this morning it was said that Nuckols appeared to be recovering and his wounds are not regarded as fatal. Coroner S C Kelly said he expected to visit the hospital and obtain Nuckols' statement regarding the shooting some time today. Nuckols, weak from his wounds and loss of blood, was able to gasp out to Osborne only that McClenney had told his wife to "cover" him and he then seized the weapon from her hand. His story regarding the alleged love affair is yet to be obtained. C G Selleck of the district attorney's office began an investigation of the tragedy this morning. Mrs McClenney was held overnight in the county jail, while the two McClenney children were given into custody of the probation office. It was regarded likely, because of the straightforward nature of her statement and the fact that the children need her care, that she will be released from jail sometime during the day. Sworn statements of the love tragedy, due at a coroner's inquest, will be had early next week. Coroner Kelly saying the inquest probably will be held next Tuesday depending upon the recovery of Nuckols and the availability of evidence at that time. The inquest will be held at the Berry undertaking house in Encinitas, Kelly said.

Same newspaper on the same day ran a second article:

**Husband 'Too Good to Live' Says Wife Who Tells Story- Of 'Affair' With Officer**

Mrs Georgianna Ione McClenney, central figure in the alleged back country romance and the fatal duel that followed yesterday afternoon when her husband was shot to death by Immigration Officer Alfred M Nuckols.

Mrs James McClenney



By Lena Falk Gjertsen

"He was too good to live."

"It wasn't my time-that is why I am alive."

This is the philosophy of Mrs James McClenney who sits in the county jail, held as a witness in the duel yesterday on the road just north of Encinitas, in which her husband was killed and her alleged faithless sweetheart, Alfred M Nuckols, was severely wounded. Dry-eyed, she sits waiting to answer any questions which are put to her. She answers in a clear, firm manner, which comes strangely from so petite and tiny person. She is only 23 years old and

has been married five and one half years. She was not yet 18 when she became the bride of McClenney, and she had not known men much. She has borne McClenney two children, a girl and a boy, aged 4 and 5 years. In spite of this she is like a child herself. In her plain black gown, silk stockings which cover ankles as slender as a dancer's and her satin, high-heeled slippers, she is dressed as she had prepared herself to go to demand reparation from the man "who had turned her down." She was prepared for him, and her husband knew that she was. He had told her, "If you must shoot-don't shoot to kill- hit him in the shoulder before he can get you." "He has treated you like a dirty dog, and if he has spoken of you to his wife, like she says, make him get down on his knees and tell her- in front of you- that it is a lie." Thus, McClenney stood by his wife.

#### Started A Month Ago

It all started just a month ago. Nuckols was what she described as a "man with a way with him." A few squeezes of the hand-which she strongly resented- a few attempted kisses- then a yielding to the kisses, and she was prepared to divorce her husband-leave her two children and take up life with Nuckols He had a wife and one child which he swore he was willing to give up. All this took place in the small settlement of Aguanga, where the McClenneys had a store and the post office. Nuckols, an immigration officer, often passed that way. "Just at the time McClenney began having "something on his mind;" he had a bad stomach and he was morose and not "like himself." Then-Nuckols moved to Del Mar, and letters passed back and forth.

"It was sort of agreed that we would each get a divorce and go together. I had never yielded to him, and I guess when he found out he could not go any further, that is why he wrote saying, 'It was all off.' He had gone back to his wife and had told her of me, " said Mrs McClenney. When I showed my husband this letter it was the first that he knew of the affair. He said he 'didn't blame me'; that I was 'too young and didn't know what I was getting into'; but that if Nuckols had treated me like that he should be made to take it back on his bended knees in front of his wife. So we started to Del Mar. We each had a gun. I have never had a permit to carry one, but up there, driving alone so often, it is different, you need one sometimes.

#### Prepared For Tragedy

So they put the two little children in the back seat of the family Ford and drove off to the tragedy. Both expecting that there probably would be one, and prepared for it. After a short month of a rather colorless romance, Mrs McClenney is left a widow, having lost a devoted husband; the two children are fatherless, with their lives marred early by tragedy. "What will you do now? Have you had training in the business that you can run it alone?" Mrs McClenney was asked. "I only helped him; he did everything. That is, the books and the buying. But I shall return to the store and the post office. "

No fear of what her neighbors would say because "everyone had thought the McClenney's such a devoted couple and liked them." There will be a pension from the government as McClenney was an ex-service man; there is a small insurance; their home is almost paid for, and there is the store and the post office. Yes, she would go it alone.

**Has Learned Lesson**

"If Nuckols recovers and should want to return to you, what would you do?"

"Never! Never again. I have learned my lesson."

Friends of five years standing were at the jail waiting to take her to their home in the back country and protect her from further thoughts. They want to help her get her mind away from the tragedy. They have a family of children of their own, but want to take the two children out, too, so the mother may be with them.

"We never dreamed anything like this could possibly happen to the Macs. We visited with them a long while last summer and they were so devoted. Well I suppose it just had to be." Thus spoke the woman friend also.

Fate certainly dealt a heavy blow to little Mrs McClenney a short month of intrigue, and she is taking it standing up but she says, "I've got to stand up now. When I break, I will go all to pieces."

20 Jun 1925 San Diego Union Tribune

**State May Prosecute Duel Survivor After Inquest Next Monday**

Though fate decided Mrs McClenney's love affair against her lawful husband in favor of her fickle married lover when they emptied automatic pistols at each other, the people, as represented by a jury of 12, probably will add their judgment in the name of the state of California.

Acting District Attorney C G Selleck stated this morning that there is no authority for a reported 'statement' that there will be no prosecution of Alfred M Nuckols, immigration officer, who survived the close-range duel with James A McClenney Thursday afternoon. Selleck is in charge of the case, and said he has given of the case and said he has given no indication nor statement that prosecution will be lacking.

Preliminary to any formal charges by the state, a coroner's jury will hear much of the evidence available and pass judgment upon the cause of McClenney's death, Monday at Oceanside, where McClenney's body was taken from the scene of the duel on the highway north of Encinitas.

**"Termed 'Poor Fish'"**

The latter that brought the meeting of McClenney and Nuckols was released to representatives of the press late yesterday, after the acting district attorney had obtained the signed statement of Mrs McClenney, gathered on other evidence and ordered release of the dazed young widow from the county jail. This letter, written by Mrs Nuckols to Mrs McClenney, supplies corroboration of Mrs McClenney's statement as published yesterday, that it was in an effort to defend Mrs McClenney's good name and prevent Mrs Nuckols from defaming her to friends and neighbors that Mrs McClenney and her husband fought Nuckols Thursday with an alleged intention of taking him to Mrs Nuckols and secure an agreement all around that no publicity of the love affair of Nuckols and Mrs McClenney be made. "You poor fish", wrote Mrs Nuckols to Mrs McClenney. "You're not the first woman he's fooled around with. But he's good to me and the children, and I trust him. If you don't quit fooling around with him, I'm going to tell the whole world about it."

This letter had followed Nuckols' assurance to Mrs McClenney that he would stand by his agreement to get a divorce and marry her as soon as she could get a divorce from her husband, even though he had promised his wife to quit his "fooling around" with Mrs McClenney. Distracted, Mrs McClenney showed the letter to her husband. They went to find Nuckols and his wife. The "whole wide world" instead of being kept out of the secret love affair, now knows the story and that McClenney died, apparently a martyr to her good name, holding her blameless as a country girl, who knew little of men and inviting the sympathy of the "whole wide world" to her, widowed with two small children, by her susceptibility to the wiles of a sophisticated man in the uniform of the immigration service.

**Nuckols Improving**

Nuckols, the immigration officer, was reported today to be steadily improving at the naval hospital, where he was taken as a public service patient. His statement made to coroner S C Kelly yesterday for use at the Oceanside inquest appears to offer a self-defense plea, as far as the pistol duel is concerned. When he grabbed the automatic with which he killed McClenney, from the hand of Mrs McClenney, he said McClenney shot him, the bullet striking high on his head and glancing off, whereupon he turned and both he and McClenney pumped their guns empty. His statement indicates, too, that McClenney may have fired several more shots before he fired at McClenney, but McClenney was shooting into the automobile at the start, with Mrs McClenney and their two children in close danger of receiving the bullets, whereas McClenney standing beside the open door of the sedan, was a line target for Nuckols.

Mrs McClenney, upon release from the county jail, was taken by Mr and Mrs Frank Smith to their home in El Cajon to await the inquest Monday. Smith was a service "buddy" of McClenney. The two McClenney children were taken from the probation office custody by Mrs W S Warren, mother of Mrs McClenney and Arthur Warren, brother.

#### **Duelist's Wife Credited With Foiling Plot**

How, Mrs Alfred M Nuckols, wife of the immigration inspector wounded in a gun duel at Encinitas Thursday afternoon, which resulted in the death of James A McClenney, Aguanga storekeeper, played a conspicuous part in the arrest of Charles Barnhart, now serving a four-year federal prison term for Chinese smuggling, was recalled by local immigration service officials today. According to the local inspectors, Mrs Nuckols frequently assisted her husband in his work on the patrol line and was so doing on Sept 23, 1923, when the Barnhart "scout car" came along. The car passed Warner's where Nuckols then was stationed, and because of its suspicious actions attracted the attention of the woman "immigration guard." She notified her husband and another inspector nearby and caused them to pursue and capture the car when its high speed caused it to run off the highway. Officials said that the failure of the Barnhart smuggling scheme probably was due entirely to the observation and ready comprehension of Mrs Nuckols. In appreciation of her services on that occasion, she received a commendatory letter from Inspector A E Burnett, then District officer in charge, this letter being written Sept 29, 1923. The letter is on file at the immigration service headquarters here.

San Diego Evening Tribune June 22, 1925

#### **Hold Inquest For Victim In Gun Duel**

The death of James A McClenney in a pistol duel with Alfred M Nuckols as the tragic culmination of a love affair between Mrs McClenney and Nuckols was the subject of the coroner's inquest at Oceanside today, the hearing having started before a coroner's jury at 10 o'clock this morning. Mrs McClenney was to be called to the stand to recite her story of the duel, as she already has told it to Deputy Sheriff Oliver Sexson, Acting District Attorney C G Selleck, and to the press, while the Nuckols' version was to be presented by coroner C S Kelly in a sworn statement he obtained from Nuckols in the naval hospital last Friday, following the tragedy on Thursday afternoon on the highway north of Encinitas. Deputy District Attorney E L Johnson represents the district attorney's office at the coroner's inquest to measure the evidence relative to possible prosecution of Nuckols, and in Los Angeles, Acting District Attorney Selleck, coupled with other business was to confer with the United States District Attorney relative to any action the federal government may take against Nuckols, who is an immigration inspector attached to the border patrol. Since the coroner's inquest is primarily to determine the cause of death and fix the blame for the immediate cause it was not expected the circumstances of the love affair that led to the fatal encounter would have a large place in the inquisition of today. Mrs Nuckols, who wrote a letter to Mrs McClenney that caused the latter and her husband to leave their home and store and post office at Aguanga, Riverside County last Thursday in search for Nuckols and Mrs Nuckols for the alleged purpose of obtaining apologies was not expected to be called to the stand at the inquest.

June 23, 1925 San Diego Evening Tribune

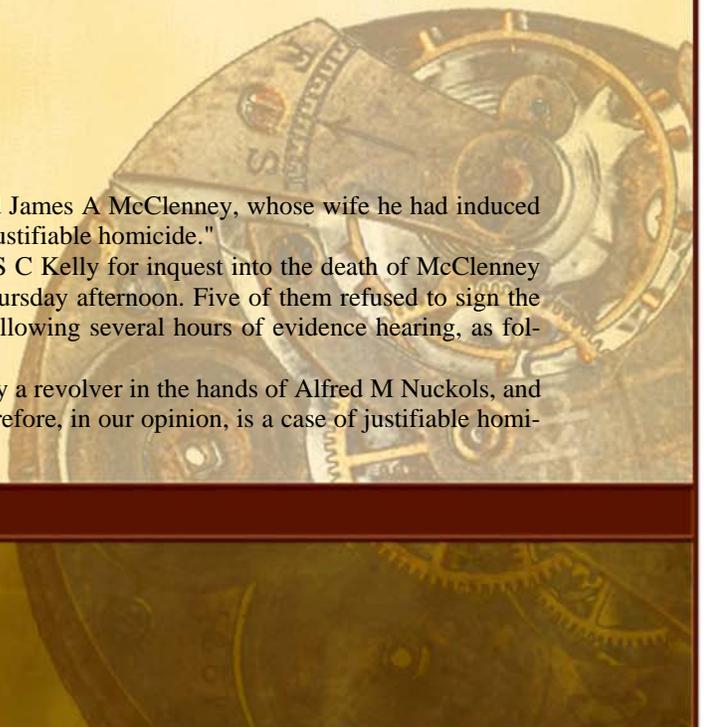
#### **Majority of Jurors Vote McClenney Killing Justified**

##### **Story of Love Affair is Told By Widow**

Seven of 12 Oceanside men voted that Alfred M Nuckols killed James A McClenney, whose wife he had induced to promise to leave her husband and babies and marry him, in "justifiable homicide."

The 12 constituted a coroner's jury called together by Coroner S C Kelly for inquest into the death of McClenney in a pistol duel on the coast highway north of Encinitas last Thursday afternoon. Five of them refused to sign the verdict drafted by the majority of seven yesterday afternoon following several hours of evidence hearing, as follows:

"We the jury, find that James A McClenney came to his death by a revolver in the hands of Alfred M Nuckols, and we further find that said shot was fired in self-defense; and, therefore, in our opinion, is a case of justifiable homicide."



"He died for me: Nuckols insulted me and he died for me.", Mrs McClenney had exclaimed when McClenney fell, according to the testimony at the inquest by R C Osborne, a fellow immigration inspector of Nuckols, who accompanied Nuckols to the scene of the accidental meeting and resultant duel.

Relates Love Affair

Mrs McClenney on the witness stand related the story of her love affair with Nuckols from the time of its inception when he was stationed at Arguanga, where her husband and she kept a store and post office, until the tragic culmination of it in her husband's death. It was the same story as told to Deputy Sheriff Sexson and Acting District Attorney C G Selleck and to the press, and was recited by Sexson, as well as by herself, to the coroner's jury again yesterday.

While enroute from their home at Aguanga with their two little children in their Ford sedan to find the immigration officer and Mrs Nuckols and obtain an apology for charges and a retraction of threats made in a letter from Mrs Nuckols to Mrs McClenney, they met Nuckols, accompanied by Osborne, on the highway. The two husbands greeted each other, and McClenney led Nuckols to the McClenney car, stopped by the roadside.

According to Mrs McClenney's statement both men fired shots at the same time, as nearly as she could tell. Nuckols shooting with a gun he grabbed from her hand after McClenney had taken Nuckols' own gun away from him and stripped his immigration service badge from his uniform.

Nuckols' self-defense plea, as confined by the coroner's jury verdict by a vote of 7 to 5 was placed into the evidence in a sworn statement made by Nuckols to Coroner Kelly at the naval hospital the day after the shooting. This statement was that when McClenney told him to get into the car, and he did so, McClenney told Mrs McClenney to cover him, that he turned to see if she were armed and, as he did so, a shot from McClenney's gun struck him high on the head and glanced off the force of the bullet blow sending him over against Mrs McClenney, from whom he seized the gun which he then turned upon McClenney.

State Represented

Whether this evidence will be accepted by the district attorney's office as conclusively sufficient to preclude prosecution of Nuckols when he is released from the naval hospital remains to be determined. Deputy District Attorney E L Johnson was present at the inquest, but said any decision as to prosecution would be made by his superiors. Acting District Attorney C G Selleck was expected to return from Los Angeles today, and District Attorney C C Kempley will return soon from Chicago.

Nuckols was not represented by counsel at the inquest, but Attorney Hayden L Hews of Riverside, girlhood home of Mrs McClenney, was present in her interests.

The reported intentions of the McClenneys to mutilate Nuckols when they started out from home last Thursday was not stressed at the inquest, and has been virtually ignored by the authorities. Questioned concerning it, Mrs McClenney testified that her husband had said that if Nuckols declined to shoulder his part of the blame for the love affair before Mrs Nuckols, "he would fix him so no other woman would be interested in him", but that they never doubted Nuckols "would do the right thing."

June 23, 1925 San Diego Union Tribune

#### **Jurors Vote McKenney Killing Justified**

#### **Letter From Woman That Causes Death Duel Made Public at Inquest**

The full text of the letter written by Mrs Alfred M Nuckols to Mrs James A McClenny, placing the blame for the love affair of Immigration Inspector Nuckols and Mrs McClenney upon the latter and threatening exposure, thereby causing Mr and Mrs McClenney to go in search of the Nuckols' to demand apology and silence, with result that they chanced to meet Nuckols on the highway and McClenney was killed in a pistol duel with him, was read at the inquest yesterday, and is as follows:

"When I read those letters and remembered yours by heart and with a full confession on his part of your actions, I am ashamed that I am a woman. To think a mother of two sweet babies like yours; and then you threw yourself away and admitted in your letter that you always did daydream, but since meeting him you only day dreamed of him. You poor fish: You are not the only one he ever day dreamed of and said he was thinking of breaking the thing up when I found the letter and was glad I did break it up. I know him and as I told you in public I was not afraid of losing him. I have seen it tried before. I could lose him if I left, but not otherwise. He gave you a line, I know as he did others, but soon tired of them. He even told you not to notice him in front of me, that I was jealous.

He knew better; only he knew if things were too bold I would stop him for public opinion's sake. I knew before I moved, but thought he would drop you when he came to the coast, and would as soon as he was chasing another dame here.

#### **"They All Fall"**

"I didn't lie to you. They all fall for him, and I am used to it, and don't care. He is always good to me, and I get the pay checks and go and come as I please. Why should I care? He sure had a fit this time for fear I would get a divorce and has promised to do anything if I will only drop it. Don't flatter yourself he was worrying about you, and as you told him in your letter don't worry for your sake. He was worried about me and what I would do. Now as I say, I am not going to protect you one bit. You may think you can throw this aside, but I intend to tell all your neighbors and tell them why I was up there; how I told him he had to leave with you as I would bawl it out and anything you ever told him when I was up there and gave you two time to talk. You did not want to give him up, and then you had nerve enough to say to my face you did not want to give him up.

I went this far to see if you were really sincere and would have pitied you if you were ready to leave with him, but actions prove to me you are not only a trifler and would step in and break up any home, and you should be taught a lesson. I would have been willing if you had been on the square, to protect you all through until you had found out he would tire of you, but you have acted the cad. You're not on the square, and you are a dangerous woman for your husband to live with and if you would do your housework and care for your babies, you would have plenty to do without flirting with every man who came into your store. You have plenty of time, you don't have to remain in the store all of the time, but you are afraid you will miss some of the flirtations with other men.

#### **"Don't Blame Him"**

I knew you thought you would spite me when you started flirting with him, as you knew I had no time for you. I can read human nature, and I knew you were no good from the start. Your actions were too silly and soft. I am just not that kind, and very glad I am not. I am the one unharmed. You must suffer, for you alone are to blame. No man is to blame. They don't force you. Hope I can tell you these things to your face, but I may not have the chance to protect your dear babies and good husband. As I said before, I don't blame him. You stated and said he was just like all the rest of the men, and even cried, and then let him do the same thing over again-let him go in the store with me sitting outside and love and caress you, and then say in your letter you wish you could have been alone just for a minute, if no longer, to show your affections. Too bad. You can have the chance any time you want to-I don't care. I left you two alone that day. I surely didn't care very much. If you only knew how he cried and begged me not to do that act-make him go with you, but he knew he had to do as I said or I would tell the whole world and leave him besides. I am staying here because I really pity him, or ever come under my care. I would have been sorry for both and treated you royal, but it is your turn-down and yellow streak that makes me mad. If you didn't care enough to leave him, why break up his home and then think you are not going to break your own? You will wish some day you had left with him. The only thing, as I told him, you are not good enough for him, for he has been a grand husband and good father to his baby.

#### **"Women Not Thoughtful"**

He has done no more than other men do. Very few men will turn down anything thrown in their face as you put yourself to him- pinch his hand every time he gave you change and make eyes at him, fix dates when you knew yours would be away to Los Angeles and on Fridays. You told him the first time you made up your mind to get him. Well, you have to admit it has taken a long time for him to make up, for he didn't think that way of you, but at last, of course, stolen sweets are fine as long as they are stolen. He would not be satisfied with you, and that is where my revenge would have come in. Men are not so easy to get up and leave wife and babies, but women are not so thoughtful. He handed me all your letters after I found the one-that is, all he had. He had been so near caught and burnt up some of them, but what he had left he dug up, and gave them to me; also handed all of his to me, so I am surely not half so bad as he tried to make me out in the letter. I would rather talk than write, but may never have a chance, so am writing this to hand you some time when the opportunity affords, or it may be handed to you by some of the neighbors. I seen one of them the other day, but didn't have this written. Next time, mix up with a single guy-you will have better luck, as there are too many involved when you pick a married one. A man, until this so-called love is worked off, don't use judgment at the time, but when they tire of the passion-love they look some place else with no intention of mistreating the family.

**"Just Plain Man"**

As you know, or should know, we never had any trouble. He told falsehoods of those quarrels and still are new quarrels, only I did not say he had no business putting my name. Neither one of you did, but this made it stronger I suppose. I was anxious to protect your husband and babies, but I am not so particular about you. If you didn't care for yourself, why should I protect you? I am not saying he did not make love to you, but I guess he didn't force himself on you, as you started the whole flirtation. If you wasn't willing there wouldn't be anything to it. Of course, he was just plain man. You tempted him and any other man would have done the same thing. He would of even have gone with you a while, as I told him. He had to just see how long it would last, but I guess you must have woke up. He begged me before we went up there to forget it and not do that, but I wanted to see where you was at. You should make a "beaut" story of it, as it wouldn't have ended this way if I was in love as much as you said you were. I would have been around and ready to have left in a very few days.

San Diego Union Tribune July 9, 1926

**Find Stolen Auto; Marines Missing**

Oceanside- Uniforms of two marines, believed to have gone "over the hill," were found here yesterday when Immigration Officers Frank Goodell and Alfrd Nuckols followed tracks leading from the abandoned stolen automobile. The automobile was parked by the side of the road and was later found to belong to the Campbell Chevrolet company. After finding the uniforms and identification tags which indicated they belonged to Bernard H Darrow and Lloyd E Sowers, Nuckols and Goodell enlisted the services of Traffic Officer Fred Steck. From questioning motorists near Capistrano, Steck learned that two men had been seen walking north a few minutes before. Steck succeeded in tracing them to Santa Ana where the trial was lost.

July 14, 1927

**US Officers Nab Embezzler Suspect**

Patrol Inspectors Alfred M Nuckols and Irvin J Curtis, assisted by Jack Dennison, federal narcotic agent here, last night arrested Michael Santibanez at the Monument School Road it was announced today at the local office of the US Immigration border patrol service. Santibanez was turned over to local police for investigation. He is suspected of being an embezzler wanted at San Francisco.

Aug 23, 1927

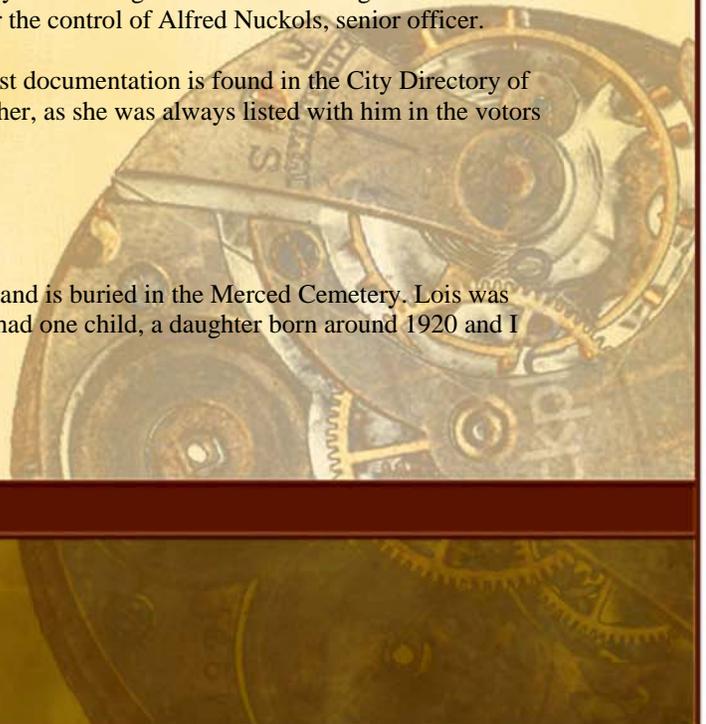
**Patrol Arrests Eight in Alleged Smuggling Plot**

Eight men were arrested today by local immigration border patrol inspectors. frustrated, what is believed to have been a plot to smuggle Chinese across the international boundary line. A motor truck, which officers said had been so loaded as to appear to be carrying only furniture, was used by the alleged smugglers. Six Chinese were discovered concealed in the vehicle. According to the reports of the case filed with the local border patrol office, the arrests were made on the Mountain Springs grade by Irvin J Curtis and Roy Wahl of the border patrol. The alleged smugglers are Wallace Smith, 25 and Epifanto Orozco, 25. They were brought to the local immigration office for questioning. The district in which the arrests were made is under the control of Alfred Nuckols, senior officer.

No other articles were found, but he continued his career. The last documentation is found in the City Directory of Imperial Valley CA June 30, 1942. Alfred and Lois stayed together, as she was always listed with him in the voters registrations and city directories un until the year she died.

@

Albert Milton Nuckols died 2/7/1948 in Merced Co, CA and is buried in the Merced Cemetery. Lois was buried in the Mt Hope Cemetery in San Diego. Alfred and Lois had one child, a daughter born around 1920 and I have not found any further record of her yet.



## UPDATES TO WEB PAGES

*All states cemetery records have been updated with links to photos on Find-A-Grave. I began making a list, but the list got to be three pages long, so, instead, will just say all states are updated.*

*Ancestry has added state census records for New York*

*I had no response to folks in the 1940 census who I could not identify. I don't know how these guys come out from under the rocks. I can only think many are not really Nuckols. It only seems that is a guy in age 50 in 1940 and you cant locate the same guy in 1900, 1910, 1920 or 1930, there is something obviously very wrong. When you have the time to browse, look at Virginia:*  
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nuck141/census/identity5.htm>

*Also try the Virginia Newspapers*

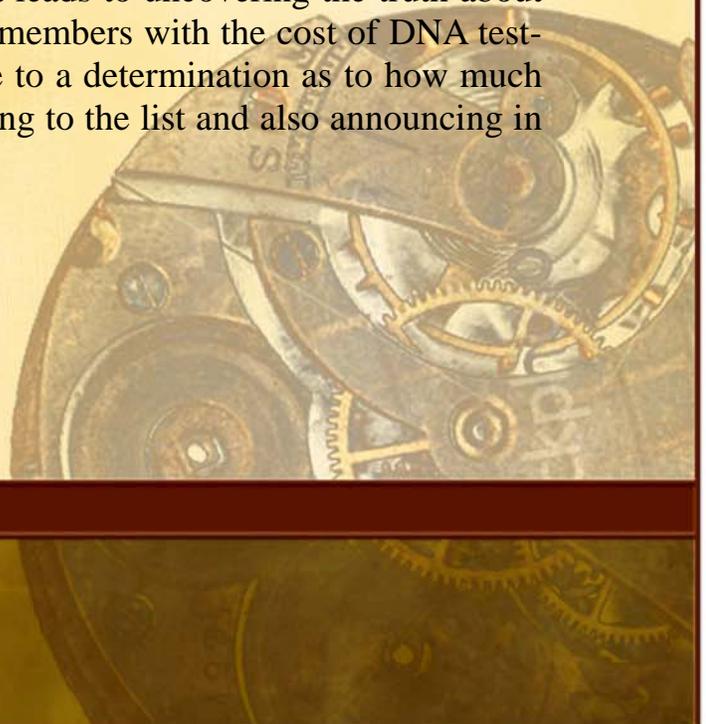
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nuck141/news/news6.htm>

*Fredwyn and Hildegard were able to identify a few of the Kentucky folks. We have a lot more members who hail from Virginia who may be able to help.*

*Please know and realize that whenever you see names appear in **RED LETTERS** on the web site, that they are unidentified people that I am seeking the connection for.*

### **DNA Information**

The Society is not publishing new books, costs are down and funds are plenty. With the new technology of DNA testing that leads to uncovering the truth about our family lines, we will be offering to help members with the cost of DNA testing. We will hold a board meeting and come to a determination as to how much of the cost we will assist with. I will be posting to the list and also announcing in the next newsletter.





**DNA Testing Assistance to be offered by Society**

MARCH 2011

VOL 12 ISSUE 2

*Shocking NEW DNA Results*  
*Farewell to Donna Knuckles*  
*Life of a Border Patrol Agent*

**VISIT US ON THE WEB**

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nuck141/>