



## Finding Family *by Linda Coble*

### Floods, Fires, Tornadoes, and Hurricanes

I've lived in areas where those events happen. Fire is the one that scares me the most. In the midwest, summertime can bring fire from lightning strikes and as a child growing up on wooded property outside the small town of Liberty, Missouri, I remember getting into the family car with my parents and little brother, and riding out of the area until the danger was past. We never knew if our home would be gone when we returned. I've seen the Missouri and Mississippi rivers at flood stage, hidden in a storm cellar, corner of a basement, and interior bathroom in response to tornado and hurricane warnings, and evacuated to a friend's home on higher ground twice.

My mother died of smoke inhalation when her home burned in 1982 so when I saw the news about a giant fire destroying the town of Paradise, California recently, I was concerned for my second cousin, 90 year old Imogene. I had her daughter's email and contacted Lory to see if Imogene was O.K. Thankfully Imogene was able to get out of town and is now living with her daughter and family.

Imogene and I had connected about four years ago. I contacted her daughter Lory through Ancestry. Imogene does not have a computer but we started writing to each other, exchanging family records, stories, and photos. She grew up in California and I grew up in Missouri. Several months ago Imogene wrote and asked if I would like to have a crocheted collar made by my great grandmother Sarah (KNSV-932) because none of her children were interested in it. I said yes. Imogene had previously sent me several photos of Sarah.



Sarah Horne

We've all seen news photos of people going back to destroyed homes and searching for photos and keepsakes. When you are evacuating, you don't have time to grab much. The recent California fires remind us that time is of the essence in backing up our digital images to the cloud, sharing photos and other family items with cousins, and sharing on Family Search, Ancestry, and

My Heritage. The best way to preserve our photos, keepsakes, and family stories is to share them.

## Research Helps *by Lee Nishimoto*

### HISTORY IS MASTER

As it comes near the end of 2018, it seems timely to talk about history. Events in family history rarely happen as random events. What was happening at that time and place shaped the events in peoples' lives. One of my favorite statements relating to genealogy is "History is Master." The history of the place, the time period and the people

are very important to understanding our genealogy. Then ask. "Where were they?" "When were they?" "Who were they?" History can give family research focus and clarity, but just as important can be the added cultural and historical events that can be related to your family that you may have missed.

Ninian Beall (1625 - 1717), was a Scotsman that ended up in colonial Maryland. What was happening that brought him to Maryland? Life definitely was not what he planned. Ninian Beall held a commission as cornet in the Scotch-English Army, raised to resist Cromwell. He fought in the battle of Dunbar, 3rd September, 1650, against Cromwell, and was made prisoner at that battle and they were sent to a London prison where many died. He was sentenced to five years servitude. He was sent with 150 other Scotsmen to Barbados, West Indies. About 1652 they appeared in the Province of Maryland. Ninian Beall served his five years with Richard Hall, a planter of Calvert Co.



Courtesy: Thomas Beall

Ninian Beall became an important person in the Colony of Maryland. He was High Sheriff of Calvert County and member of Maryland House of Burgesses. He was the chief military officer in Maryland rising to rank of Colonel. He had large land holding, including tracts which included Georgetown, Washington, D. C. (Note Georgetown, was named for his son,

George, not for George Washington.) Under Ninian's supervision, 200 Presbyterians from Scotland were settled along the Potomac in Prince Georges County and he gave a parcel of land for their Presbyterian church.

He was buried on his home plantation called Rock of Dumbarton and when in recent years his remains were dug up, owing to the growth of Georgetown where his home was situated, it was found that he was six feet seven inches tall, and his Scottish red hair had retained all of its fiery hue and he had died at the age of 92.

A Scottish military officer, captured in battle, sent to prison, sentenced to 5-years as an indentured servant in Barbados then Maryland. After his indenture he rose to importance in Maryland and acquired large landholding. He then encouraged other Scots to settle in Maryland.

