

Goodrich Gospel

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Editor: Delores Goodrich Beggs

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The original Goodrich Family Association was started in 1978, and reactivated in April, 2005 by founder George W. Farrell, b. 17 November 1925, d. 20 December 2005. Membership is open to Goodrich and all variants of the surname who wish to join together to further research and create a lasting record of the Goodrich and variant surname history.

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Files Update

We are happy to have received access to the Delaware County, NY file information hand-compiled by the well respected late Victor Burton Goodrich, courtesy of Joan Goodrich. This information enables us to provide look-ups for Delaware County, N.Y., complete with sources.

We have also received access to "The Descendants of William Goodrich of Wethersfield, Connecticut through his 6th Great Grandson William Homer Goodrich of Beerston, New York" compiled by Victor B. Goodrich. This manuscript, complete with four appendices, is an account of the life of William Goodrich, born about 1620 Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, England; died Oct. 1676 Wethersfield, Hartford Co., CT. It traces the line of William Goodrich, son of John Gooderich and Margery Howes, who married Sarah Marvin 4 Oct. 1648 at Wethersfield, Hartford Co., CT. Again, our thanks to Mrs. V. B. Goodrich for making this information available for look-ups.

Another project under way is the creation of an “About Us” history of the Goodrich Family association. Many thanks to Pamelyn Bush and Kay Waterloo, who between them have provided a complete set of the original association newsletters for assistance with this project. Dr. Joyce Goodrich provided original letters from our founder, George W. Farrell for the project. The history will eventually be placed on our future web site.

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Victor B. Goodrich, Jr.

Victor Burton Goodrich, Jr. was born 23 November 1928 and died 30 December 1995, the son of Victor B and Edythe Durfree Goodrich. He married Joan Schilling in 1951 in Kent, OH. After receiving his Masters degree from Kent State in 1952, “Burt” as he was called to differentiate him from his father, became a career Air Force Officer.

I inquired how Burt got started in genealogy.

“I think I’m responsible!” Mrs. V. B. Goodrich said. “In the 1970’s I suggested we should get some information from his parents ‘just in case our children are ever interested’. Little did I know what I was starting.”

After retiring from the Air Force, Burt was still doing family research. Then the director of the Madison County, N. Y. Historical Society asked him to deal with an inquiry they had received, and that was the beginning of his part-time professional research business and also lead to eventual positions teaching beginning genealogy classes. Among his many genealogical contributions, he was the first editor of the Madison County Heritage. He contributed material to Tree Talk, the quarterly published by Central New York Genealogical Society. He prepared five volumes of extracts from early Walton newspapers for the Walton Library.

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Goodrich Surname DNA Project Report by Delores

Our Goodrich Surname DNA Project continues to grow. I am happy to report that we currently have 9 test participants, including one Canadian. Three surname variations are included in our DNA project.

We now have our first perfect 25 marker (allele) match! This perfect match is between test participants in the oldest Goodrick ancestor Benjamin Goodrick(h)of VA line, establishing that lineage. The perfect match is between descendants of Benjamin’s first and seventh living sons by his first wife. A third test participant, by another Benjamin son by his second wife, is a very close match also.

We additionally have a perfect 12 marker match between three Goodrich test participants, and a 25 marker match between two of them. We are awaiting further test results for this group.

It will be exciting to see what other Goodrich matches/connections will show up in our test results. The Case book, The Goodrich Family, lists five early Goodrich settlers. Will

inquired how he came to have multiple web sites. He kindly responded to my questions (in bold):

“Actually, the web sites are a progression over the years. I've had different ISP's over the years and each one provided the opportunity to create a web page. I've always set up a Goodrich genealogy site, because that's what I've been interested in. When I've changed ISP's the genealogy sites just remained. If you view them you will notice the progression of information over the years. I once contacted a ISP coordinator and asked him why the site was still there when I'd closed the account and went to a different ISP? He told me that is was just easier to leave it instead of going in and deleting everything. So, only my current webpage at comcast.net is functional. Incidentally, I did set these web pages up myself with the help of the programs that they provided. I currently am using Microsoft FrontPage 2000.”

“Tell me a little about yourself?”

“A short history of my life would read: Born Skamania, Skamania Co., WA. and grew up in North Bonneville, Skamania Co., WA. Graduated from Stevenson High School, Stevenson, Skamania Co., WA. in 1959. Worked in logging and sawmills for awhile and then joined the U. S. Navy:

Boot camp, San Diego, CA. Electrician's school at Great Lakes, IL. And was sent to Littlecreek, VA. aboard the USS Krishna, ARL38. Later to Norfolk, VA aboard the USS Guadalcanal, LPH7. After my four years, four months (Secretary of Defense, Robert McNamara extended all Naval and Marine's for four months during the Cuban Crisis in the 60's).

After military service I worked for Dana Corporation for 28 years before they closed and moved down south. Then I worked for seven years at TRW Automotive. I'm now retired and on Social Security!

“How did you come to get started in family history?”

As far as getting started in genealogy? My sister-in-law sent me family group sheets of our ancestors. I started researching on the computer and sending for much information though regular mail. I found out that almost everything on the group sheets were wrong; especially surnames. The more information I found the more I was hooked.

The biggest surprise and the most rewarding was information I found on my paternal grandparents and great grandparents. We were coming back from Vermont and when we got near Michigan I noticed a sign pointed to Morenci, MI. Knowing that my great grandparents were buried in Oak Grove Cemetery in Morenci we decided to try and find them. After searching for some time we were about to leave and I noticed a large stone with just the Goodrich name on it. Next to the road in front of this stone were the headstones of my grandfather, great grandfather, and great grandmother. On my great grandfathers stone was inscribed: "88th Indiana Volunteer Infantry" and a Civil War flag near it. So I contacted the Indiana Genealogy Society and received much information about my Civil War great grandfather and his brother. I sent for pension records and found all sorts of information on their families.

“Do you have a favorite research site?”

The research sites I use the most are: ancestry.com and familysearch.org. I also research a Klickitat Co., WA. site that has a lot of connecting families.

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Searchable link: Repositories of Primary Sources (University of Idaho)

<http://www.uidaho.edu/special-collections/Other.Repositories.html>

This user-friendly web site connects you with a few mouse clicks to over 5,000 websites that have collections for genealogy research and is touted as an excellent supplement to the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections.

The well known major research sites (below) are to be found here, and many others, collected by state. You just click on a choice of three US Regions, and then click on a state name at the top of the page. It then takes you to the list of resources for that state.

- LDS Family History Center, Salt Lake City
- Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, IN,
- University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI
- Library of Congress, Washington, DC
- DAR Library, Washington, DC
- Denver Public Library, Denver, CO

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Research Tip: Fraternal Societies

Where do you turn when you know there should be a record of an ancestor at a certain location, but none can be found?

Dr. Edward Olin Goodrich, investigated what records are available at the Mason’s Lodge, and that is where he obtained the birth and death dates of his grandfather and verified the name of his grandmother. The records also included his grandfather’s place of employment and what he did there.

Societies were a major social outlet in both rural and urban areas during the 19th century and belonging was a common feature of life in that period. My own father belonged to a Mason’s Lodge and my mother to the Order of the Eastern Star. At one time there were over 300 such societies in existence; patriotic, religious, political, charitable, fraternal – all were common. Many organizations for men had complementary organizations for women. The largest organizations included the Freemasons, the Odd Fellows, The Knights of Pythias and the Knights of Columbus (a Catholic fraternal organization).

And they kept records. Masonic records may provide vital data, as they did in Dr. Goodrich’s case. Other organizations kept local, state, national, whatever records each deemed appropriate. Over time, the nature of many “secret” societies changed. Their records could be accessed.

Because societies were so popular in the time, an ancestor may have belonged even if there is no legend or record of society membership in a family, nor a pin or watch fob in evidence, nor fraternal symbol on a headstone. Researchers can check the local directory and town history to ascertain which societies were active in a specific location during the time period the ancestor was there, and then check available records. The starting point is the Lodge or organization at the specific location the ancestor was known to be.

Note: Dr. Goodrich has volunteered to assist if anyone encounters difficulty accessing Masonic records. Email details to gfgenealogy@yahoo.com and we will put you in touch.

For more information, you may wish to explore the E-M@son web site which is updated regularly.

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Oral History: A Good Starting Place

There are advantages to starting a Family History with initial oral interviews based upon a path of open-ended questions. Using questions that are formulated around historic or personal events can be ice-breakers. Follow-up oral interviews are then centered around information found in their records.

Dr. Joyce Goodrich taped an oral history with her father when he was in his 90's.

She has taped oral histories with other people when people become interested with that within their families or within a group. There are things you can catch during an oral interview that are not available in a paper record. The telling of a family story. The emotion, the speaker's tone of voice, speech patterns. Personality.

One company, Storycorps, has a service in recording interviews as well as a free online question generator, a free do-it-yourself guide and information how to best record an interview at:

<http://www.storycorps.net/participate/>

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Wanted: Family Group Files

Thank you to those who have contributed their family history. These serve as a valuable addition to the Master Files we are creating for each immigrant ancestor, and which will, we hope, one day be available on our Goodrich Family Association web site, which is still in the planning stages. No living persons are included in these Master Files. If you haven't sent us your family history yet, Goodrich and all variants, you may send it along to gfgenealogy@yahoo.com.

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Donate Books

If you have any old genealogy books that you no longer want or need, we would appreciate if you donate them to us. This includes, of course, county histories and plat books. The more information I have at my fingertips, the better job I can do with look-ups for you. Send an email to me at gfagenealogy@yahoo.com and I will send you the mailing address.

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Goodrich Family in America Book:

We are receiving inquiries whether the fine reprint of The Goodrich Family in America, edited by Case, published in 1889, is still available. A limited number of copies are available at \$45.00 per book. Send check, made out to Dr. Joyce Goodrich, to her at:
Dr. Joyce Goodrich
315 E. 68th St.
New York, NY 10021

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Share Your Discoveries of Items of Interest: Kay Waterloo is seeking written items of interest to our Family Association Community for the next Goodrich Gospel, which she will edit. She is looking for brief one or two paragraph informational articles from our members. Be sure to include your sources. If you have an item of interest, or a genealogy link to share, please email Kay at KMW328@aol.com. Include your name and email address.

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Email Address Correction: The correct email address to reach the Goodrich Family Association is now gfagenealogy@yahoo.com. If you come upon Gwfgood@aol.com Please have it corrected.

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If you wish to be removed from the Goodrich Gospel mailing list, please send a request to gfagenealogy@yahoo.com. Please include your name and the email address you want removed from our mailing list.

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Membership Application
The Goodrich Family Association 1/12/2006

Membership is open to all variant spellings of the Goodrich name and other interested persons for the purpose of furthering research of the Goodrich families and working together as a community to determine the national and worldwide connections therein

Check one:

- Individual: First year @ \$30.00 Subsequent @ \$20.00
 - Three years @ \$60.00
 - Family: First year @ \$35.00 Subsequent @ \$25.00
 - Three years @ \$75.00
 - Voluntary donation for start up expenses _____
- Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Family membership includes spouse at same email address. Each shall have one vote. Student family members away at school will receive newsletters if email address is furnished. Dues are calculated from first day of month enrolled. Reminders will be sent prior to expiration.

Data may be submitted at any time.

Name: _____

(Last, First, Middle, please print and include spouse name for family memberships)

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-Mail: _____ Student _____ Student _____

Yes, I wish to receive the free quarterly Goodrich Family Association newsletter at my e-mail address _____. (The newsletter is by email only.)

- Returning member from the original Goodrich Family Association?
- I am an active researcher. I am mostly interested in history of the family.
- I will consider serving as an officer, trustee, committee member, or chairperson.
- Am willing to do look-ups? What areas? _____
- Please do not list name and address in membership list. (email address only)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print this form and mail the completed form, together with your check payment (made out to "Goodrich Family Association") to: Goodrich Family Association, c/o Kay Waterloo, 328 Linden Ridge Trail, Greenwood, IN, 46142-9228. Please, no cash.