

# Paisley Family Research and News

## PFA Annual Meeting

The Paisley Family Association (PFA) held their annual reunion, luncheon, and business meeting on Saturday, July 22, 2023 at Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church in McLeansville, North Carolina. Diane Langston, historian and newsletter editor, set out archival displays. Alice & Gary Houtz displayed the Robert & Mary McLean Paisley photo album they brought from Ohio. First-time visitor Tom Joyce presented Diane with their Great-grandmother Hattie Rovenia Paisley's Bible. Member Curtis Kennedy, now 101, was present and gave the blessing. The wonderful catered lunch was provided by member Wanda McCollum and her sisters.

President Don Paisley presided over the meeting that followed. Secretary Kelly McCollum read the minutes. Jenette Lineberger gave the treasurer's report. Diane read a letter from Westerlea, Clan Paisley Chieftain, congratulating the PFA on their continued loyal support and in particular the officers whose work and dedication has kept the PFA a major element in the extended family of Paisley. He sent his best wishes to all for a happy and successful meeting.

Don presented information on the new PFA website. The website provides a forum for members to connect, PFA newsletters, a list of noteworthy Paisleys, historical documents, and website links for more information. Since the website will be free for another year, the motion to approve funds was tabled until next year. <https://paisleyfamilyassociation.com/>

Gary Paisley presented information on the Clan Paisley database housed on Ancestry.com. He continues to merge and upload more data files. The family tree database currently has over 110,000 people. The audience was assured that the database is private and can only be accessed by members that have received permission. Living people are not visible.

Diane pointed out a new map of Paisley land leased in 18<sup>th</sup> century Pennsylvania made by Mark Ulmer. She also presented information on DNA. Diane demonstrated how she used autosomal DNA to find PFA member Velma Hanner Loy's unknown grandfather. To further the Paisley Y-DNA Project, Diane made the motion that funds be used to buy a Big Y-700 DNA upgrade for deceased member Arthur Rankin Paisley. The motion passed.

**Family, Food, Fellowship – a 54-year tradition for the Paisley Family!**



Thirty-six attendees from three states at the Paisley Family Association meeting on July 22, 2023.



Left: Jenette Lineberger and Diane Langston visit with their second cousins, Margaret Smith Downs (left) and her husband Robert, and Thomas Joyce and his wife Debbie.

Below right: PFA president Don Paisley talks with Curtis Kennedy.

Below left: one of the photos from an old Paisley album owned by Alice Paisley Houtz. The photo shows Calvin Marshall Paisley (1845-1916) and wife Mary Anna Hughes Paisley (1846-1927)



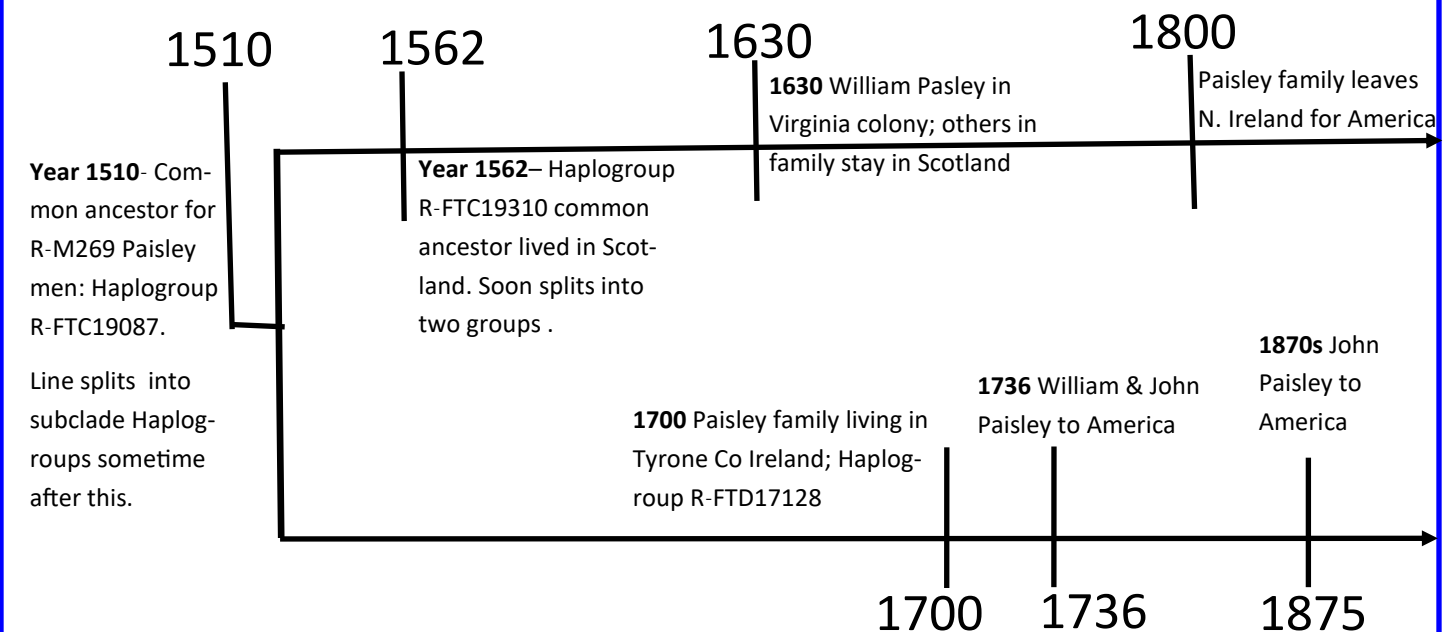
## Y-DNA Project Update

At its 2023 meeting, the Paisley Family Association approved the expenditure for upgrading the DNA test for the late Arthur Rankin “Bud” Paisley, the first participant in the Paisley Family Y-DNA Project. FamilyTreeDNA holds DNA samples for 25 years. Deceased member’s DNA can be upgraded if still viable. With fingers crossed, Project Administrator Diane Langston, ordered the test.

Bud’s DNA test was upgraded from the Y-111 marker test to the Big Y-700 test. Researchers are constantly taking new data and expanding the knowledge of what DNA can tell us. The early Y-37 marker test and Y-111 marker test can group men into a broad family based on Haplogroup (DNA family) and surnames. But, it had become apparent, with millions of tests and results, that markers mutated back and forth, thereby making generational/timeframe analysis nearly impossible. The Big Y-700 test analyzes Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNPs) which give a historical record of each generation’s unique Y-DNA. This allows for calculating a DATE when two men diverged on the family tree.

Bud’s results arrived in September and it pinpoints (with 95% probability) the approximate average date of divergence of his ancestor from descendants of orphan John Paisley as 1733. This means that Bud’s ancestor William Paisley Jr. (1741-1822 ) and Gary and Tom’s ancestor, orphan John Paisley (1762-1836), share a common ancestor that was alive in 1733.

Other Big Y upgrades are coming in. John Paisley (b.1803 in PA) is a mystery. Speculation held that John might be a grandson of immigrant John Paisley, brother to William Paisley Sr. A descendant of 1803 John upgraded. His results came in and completely threw out that theory! 1803 John Paisley is closely connected to Thomas Paisley who was born around 1790 in Ireland and immigrated to the United States sometime in the early 1800s. This line of Paisley’s diverged from William Paisley Sr.’s line around the year 1510. Also interesting is that fact that the 1803 John and 1790 Thomas lines diverged about 1589 from the Paisley’s that showed up in the 1630s in colonial Virginia. Further updates will be coming with more Big Y tests in the pipeline.

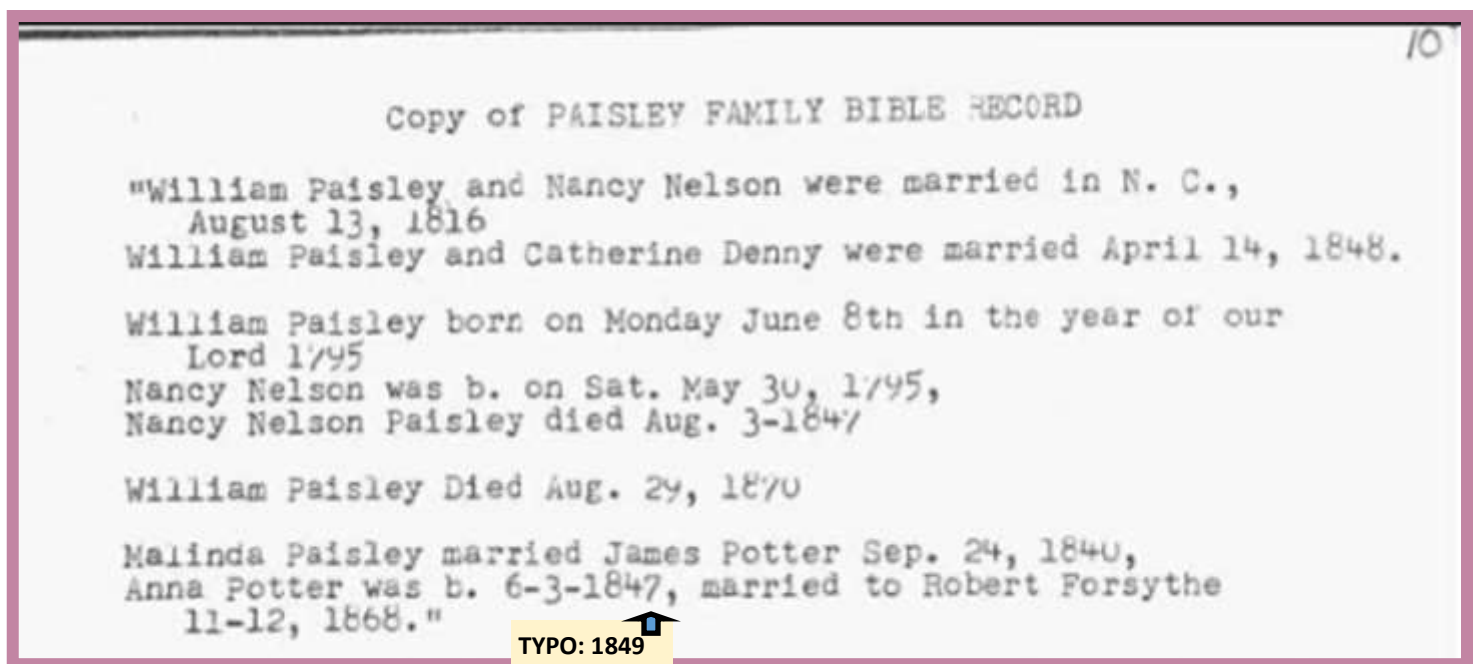




## Bible Record of William Paisley (1795 NC-1870 IL)

Another Paisley Bible record has been located. This makes a total of 23 family Bible records in the PFA archives.

The Bible record was copied by Eta Potter. It was then collected as part of the *Harned and Allied Family Records* compiled by Willodean Nease Schofield for the Anderson Indiana Chapter Daughter of the American Colonists. 112pp, not dated. This book was photocopied and digitized and can be found on the website [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org). Do a search for Book # 2177436, then go to image # 20.



William Paisley was the son of John and Jane Rankin Paisley, and grandson of William Paisley Jr. and Deliverance Paine. He married first to Nancy Nelson on 13 Aug 1816 in Guilford County NC. Nancy was said to be the daughter of John and Jane Paisley Nelson, and granddaughter of Robert and Margaret Major Paisley. In 1818 William and Nancy and many other related families left for Bond County, Illinois. They had 10 children. William's second marriage was to the widow Catherine Finley Denny on 14 Apr 1848 in Bond County, IL. Catherine was the daughter of Michael and Elenor Paisley Finley and also the granddaughter of Robert and Margaret Major Paisley. Catherine first married Samuel Wilson Denny in 1830 in Bond County and they had two sons.

## Remembering Ken Hurt



Earl Kendrick (Ken) Hurt, Jr. of Union Hall, VA passed away peacefully at home on September 24, 2023 at the age of 81. Ken was born on September 23, 1942 in Richlands, Virginia. He graduated from Richlands High School in 1959 and Greenbrier Military School in 1960. He continued his education at Emory & Henry College in Emory, Virginia and graduated with a B.A. degree in Psychology.

His easy smile and robust greetings captured those around him, including the love of his life, Jean Carole McCollum, whom he wed on November 10, 1968.

Ken proudly served 6 years in the U.S. Army Reserve, 352<sup>nd</sup> Civil Affairs Unit in Washington, D.C. He enjoyed 32 years in management with the Arlington County Department of Parks & Recreation. Post-retirement, he served as a Facility Manager with Arlington County Public Schools and worked in the Capital Improvement Projects division of the City of Alexandria, VA. Ken and Jean were long-time residents of Arlington, VA and actively involved in their community. Ken and Jean were active members of Cherrydale United Methodist Church where Ken served as Head Usher and participated in annual Christmas Living Nativity and Last Supper reenactments.

Upon retirement in 2006, Ken and Jean moved to Smith Mountain Lake where they became members of Trinity Ecumenical Parish. Ken took great pleasure in his membership of the SML Lions Club, where he volunteered at many charity events and served on the Scholarship Trust Board. Despite a terminal cancer diagnosis 27 years ago, Ken lived his life fully and never gave up.

Ken is survived by his wife of 53 years, Jean; two children Michael (Caroline) and Kerry (Jud); four grandchildren Paisley, Quinn, Elise, and Mac; sisters Marty (Doug) and Susan, and brother Hunter (Maria). A full account can be read at <https://www.connerbowman.com/obituaries/earl-hurt-jr>.

Ken was a long-time member of the Paisley Family Association and Clan Paisley Society. His quiet but full support of his wife's family organizations says a lot about his character and his love for family.



Ken and Jean at the 2009 Paisley Family Association meeting in Midlothian VA



Ken and Jean at the 2019 Clan Paisley Society tent at the Charleston SC Scottish Games

## Clan Paisley at Middle Tennessee Games

The Paisley Family Association became an organizational member of the Clan Paisley Society in 1997. Many members of PFA also joined individually. Through the years, PFA members have become the “glue” for the Clan, with some holding leadership positions.

The Covid Pandemic stopped Scottish Games in 2020, and many have not resumed. After a four year hiatus, Diane and Jay Langston hosted the Clan Paisley tent at the Middle Tennessee Scottish Games on September 9-10, 2023. After being re-located to an excellent Clan tent site, Diane and Jay greeted Paisley family from three states. Sunny skies, bagpipes, tartan flags, athletic competitions, 50 Clans, Scottish food and drink, and throngs of excited people made for a wonderful weekend.

Eleven members of Paisley/Pasley families stopped by the tent, most of which were visiting Scottish games for the first time. Clan Paisley was well represented during the march of the Clans. One unexpected visitor was a young man who was not in the Clan Paisley database. A search later determined that his grandfather was in the database and a whole new branch of the Pasley family has been located! Diane talked to 24 additional people who stopped by the Paisley tent. Two were men who had been born in Scotland. Others were attracted to our banner that had a photo of the famous country music star of the Paisley name who owns a house in Tennessee. The cutest visitor was a 7-year-old girl with the first name of Paislee who insisted that her mother buy her a Clan Paisley hat.

Following Saturday’s event, Paisley family gathered for dinner in a private dining room at Sammy B’s Restaurant in Lebanon, TN. The fun and relaxed meal was followed by a presentation by Diane Langston, updating the Paisley Family DNA Project. This information was followed closely as one of men present was a participant and is one of 6 men who have recently ordered an upgrade to the Big Y-700 test.

Nighttime rain and clouds cleared out quickly on Sunday for another spectacular day. The Kirkin’ o’ the Tartan ceremony was held mid-day. As a bagpiper played *The Flowers o’ the Forest*, names of those lost during the past years were read, including PFA and Clan Paisley member, Jimmy Gallagher.

Diane and Jay packed up soon after, to make the 10-hour trip back to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. They both agree that the friendly Middle Tennessee Scottish Games should be a yearly event for Clan Paisley. As Tennessee was the destination for many 18<sup>th</sup> century settlers moving out of North Carolina and where another 19<sup>th</sup> century immigrant Paisley family from Tyrone County Ireland settled, the potential for locating more family branches is huge.



**Dean and Sue Paisley of Chatham Illinois, Jay and Diane Langston of Fulks Run Virginia, Dennis Paisley of Cincinnati Ohio, and Chris Paisley of Franklin Tennessee.**

# CORRECTIONS

Mistakes are made frequently, both currently and back through the centuries. Death certificates and tombstones are notorious for having wrong dates and facts. The deceased are not giving the information—it is the bereaved that are having to quickly come up with the dates. Sometimes people lie on the records (wrong age on marriage records or military enlistment papers are common). Then there are transcription, spelling, and typographical errors. Below are some corrections to information that has appeared in previous PFA newsletters.

**THREE BIRTH DATES FOR ROBERT PAISLEY?** *Paisley Family Research and News*, issue 23, Fall/Winter 2007-2008, pages 4-6. A copy of Rev. Samuel Paisley's famous 1850 letter was included. On page 6, Robert Paisley's birth date was given as Sept. 11, 1772. This was the date in the version your editor viewed. However, Robert's tombstone in Donnellson, Illinois has his birth as Sept. 22, 1771. The family Bible of Samuel & Nelly Paisley, gave Robert's birth as Sept 21, 1771. Mark Ulmer did an analysis of different versions of the 1850 letter, and he found that the tombstone date appeared in some versions, whereas the Sept 11, 1772 date was used in William Sikes' and Oldham Paisley's versions. See the full analysis of the letter on the PFA website, RESOURCES tab, in ARCHIVEs section. <https://paisleyfamilyassociation.com/>. Your editor is going with the Bible record as correct.

**TWO ROBERT PAISLEY'S DYING OF RABIES IN ILLINOIS?** *Paisley Family Research and News*, issue 52, April 2023, page 2. The story of Robert Paisley (son of John & Jane Rankin Paisley) and his wife Mary McLean was highlighted. The article stated that Robert died in 1859 due to rabies from a dog bite. Your editor found this information in the *History of Bond and Montgomery Counties, Illinois* by William Perrin (1882), page 96, where it stated "Paisley, William and Robert, brothers; former died at Elm Point; latter died of hydrophobia." Robert Paisley (son of John & Jane Rankin Paisley) did have a brother William who died in Elm Point. Robert's uncle, also Robert Paisley, lived not far away, but further research showed that uncle Robert's brother William did not move to Illinois. So, the conclusion was that it was the younger Robert Paisley who died of rabies. But, just recently while correcting information on Robert Paisley's uncle Robert Paisley, a question arose. The Find-a-grave entry for uncle Robert Paisley (1771-1841) included contributor information that says "We learn by a letter published in the Alton Telegraph, that Mr. Robert Pasely, aged 70, one of the oldest settlers of Bond county, Illinois, died in great agony on the 20th ult. of hydrophobia. He was bitten by a dog three months previous to his death. [Public Ledger, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Dec 17, 1841; Page Two. ] The term "ult" means previous month, so a death date of 20 Nov 1841. This is the date on the tombstone for uncle Robert Paisley in a cemetery in Bond Co IL. SO, DID ROBERT PAISLEY (1771-1841) AND HIS NEPHEW ROBERT PAISLEY (1805-1859) BOTH DIE OF RABIES? After further research, it was certainly possible both died of the same condition, as hydrophobia (rabies) was nearly an epidemic in some area of the country in the 1800s.

**REV WILLIAM D. PAISLEY DID NOT HAVE A SON WILLIAM THAT DIED IN 1830.** In the last issue your editor corrected some mistakes made in the Buffalo Cemetery (Guilford Co NC) records, but she also failed to correct a BIG mistake, overlooked by many. The Ancestry database

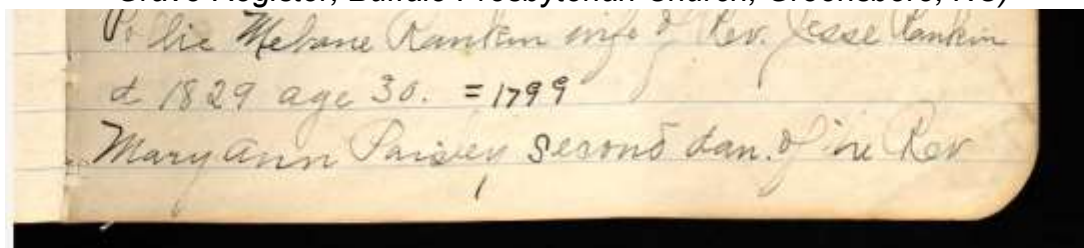


includes the photocopied pages from *U.S Presbyterian Church Records, (Grave Register, Buffalo Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, NC)*. One indexed entry is for *William D. Paisley, died 1830, age 28*. Raymond Donnell's *Buffalo Presbyterian Church and Cemetery, Greensboro North Carolina*, also noted, though not visible, that William's grave was in an early survey. Quite by chance, your editor was flipping through the scanned images of the Grave Register, when she realized that the whole entry was spread across two pages and should read "*Mary Ann Paisley, second dau of the Rev. William D. Paisley, died 1830, age 28*".

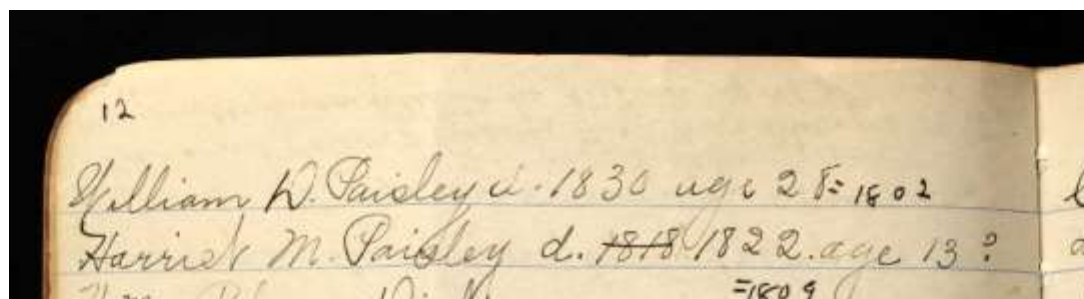
THERE IS NO GRAVE ENTRY FOR WILLIAM D. PAISLEY! When checking the family tree database it had William D. Paisley born May 18, 1802 and Mary Ann Paisley born July 31, 1802. This is an impossible feat! Maybe there was a son that died young, but he was NOT born 2 months before his sister and his burial was NOT recorded at Buffalo Presbyterian Cemetery.

*Grave Register, Buffalo Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, NC)*

Bottom of page 11



Top of page 12



## Paisley Family Association

**President:** Don Paisley

dpaisley47@aol.com

**Vice-President** Caitlyn Paisley

**Secretary:** Kelly McCollum

**Treasurer:** Jenette Jones Lineberger

4118 Fredrick Farms Drive

Midlothian, VA 23112

jenette.lineberger@yahoo.com

**Historian and Editor:** Diane Langston

17150 Little Dry River Road

Fulks Run, VA 22830

dlangsto@yahoo.com

## Websites of interest to the Paisley Family

Paisley Family Association: <https://paisleyfamilyassociation.com/>

Clan Paisley Society: <http://www.paisleyfamilyociety.org.uk/>

Paisley Family Society USA Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Paisley-Family-Society/195070730565352>

Paisley Family DNA Project web page:

<http://www.familytreedna.com/public/paisley/>

Paisley & Allied Families Autosomal DNA Project :

<https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/paisleyallied-autosomal/about>

## Calendar Dates:

Nov 4 & 5, 2023 RICHMOND HIGHLAND GAMES, Henrico CO VA

SEP 7 & 8, 2024 MIDDLE TENNESSEE SCOTTISH GAMES, Hendersonville TN