

***CHAMBLISS /
CHAMBLESS***

And
Allied Families, U.S.A.

Compiled 1985 &
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by

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Without the help of the following, there's no way I could have accomplished half of this history. It has been one of the greatest challenges I or anyone ever undertook. My idea was to help others who will follow in our footsteps in the future. Many times I was discouraged, but there was always someone out of the blue came up with a suggestion here and there to make my work easier, they, I want to recognize.

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Nita Greh of Media, Pa., who is out of the large Iowa branch of the Chambliss family, whose forebearer has given us all fits trying to place him in the family history, there were three of the same name in the same area at the same time. Some historians gave him 29 children, but both Mrs. Greh and two other historians disagree with this, she has been to Emporia, the county seat, visited some of the cemeteries and done countless work on this branch of the family. We have argued across the miles for quite a few years, she like I started getting other histories not of our own family, one doesn't know what to do with it, that's when I came up with the idea of a complete history.

Carol Chambliss Moreland of Boulder, Colo., who sent me the large Ala; Miss; and other families not of her own, but a general rundown on the many many families, showing me over the years the connections to other families.

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To the many genealogist's; Mrs. Wolf of N. Jersey who not only had contacts here but also in her native England; Mrs. Berethy Ford Wulfeck, a cousin on Mother's side who helped me with many of the early Chambliss marriages; Mrs. Verneise Chambliss who sent me her large Arkansas clan and others of this family, not her own; Richard Chambliss of Xenia, Ohio who helped me with other members of the Henry Chambliss family of Virginia and moved to Ohio after the Civil War; Dr. Charles Chambliss, Ph.D. Ouchita Baptist College, Arkadelphia, Ark., who through his Dad gave me much on their branch of the Chambliss family; Mrs. Eleanor Chambliss Forrest of Plains, Ga., who helped with her own and the Connecticut branch of the family; June Chambliss of Greensboro, N. Car. who gave me much information on the large Chambliss family of Virginia and N. Carolina; Eva Jones Boyce of California who filled me in on who Peter Chambliss married in Miss., many historians had his third wife's lineage wrong, she also sent much Mississippi information I didn't know existed; Mrs. Evelyn Duff of Boise, Idaho who got me straightened out in N. Carolina and Miss., on the James Grey Chambliss family. and lastly Gladys Chambliss of Prattville, Ala., who sent me every scrap of information she could glean from the Montgomery Court House and Library in Montgomery, Ala.

So many wonderful people who took the time to send me their histories, trusted me with their family Bibles, old photos anything in the way of paper clippings, books that I might glean information out of, I can't name all of you, but know without you there couldn't have been this history.

Harold B. Chambliss

*History
Of
Surname*

CHAMBLEY

The CHAMBLEY family is mentioned in 1207 and 1208 AD in the person of Albert di CHAMBLEIS, Canon of Metz and in the treaty which the latter concluded with Thibaud, Count of Bar. Their descendants are mentioned repeatedly in the Gorge Archives. Ferry CHAMBLEY V and Jean de CHAMBLEY, Sons of Ferry IV and d'Ermengarde de Florange (or de la March), played an important role in the history of Lorraine at the beginning of the 15th century. This Ferry IV, Marshal of Barrois and also Marshal of Lorraine, always remained attached to his princes. In December 1415 he made a commitment to Charles the II to recognize the latter's two daughters, Isabelle and Catherine, as heiresses of their father's Dukedom. In 1419 Ferry IV embraced the Duke of Lorraine's dispute against the Messins, laid waste to the Metz Valley and besieged Ennery which had been treacherously surrendered by Henri de Balhignon.

In 1432 Ferry served as hostage to the Duke d'Anjou when the latter, made prisoner at Bulgneville, obtained from Phillippe de Bourgogne a temporary release to arrange his affairs in Lorraine. This combative Knight (Ferry V), which the Cartulary of Chambley depicts as a person of stern piety and devotion, made his will on April 19, 1435 and died in 1437, with Jean de Laulney, he had among other children:

Jean, a knight; Francois, whose daughter, Blanchefleur, the last person with the Chambley Name, married Perrin de Maraucourt who came into possession of Chambley and added Chambley to his name; Marguerite, who married Louis de Beauvau and gave birth to Isabelle. Isabelle married Jean de Bourbon, Count of Vendome and became the great grand mother of Henri IV, king of France 1589-1610.

Jean de Bourbon II, known as Count of Vendome, Lord of Epernon. Lord of Montdoubleau, Lord of Lavardin, on 9 November 1454 at Angers married Isabelle de beauveau, Dame of Champignia and de la Roche-sur-yon. She died in 1474. Isabelle was the sole daughter and heiress of Louis de Beauvoises, Lord of Champigni, Seneschal of Anjou and of Marguerite de Chamblei. Jean de Bourbon died in his castle at Lavardin on 6 January 1477 and was interred in the Church of St. Georges of Vendome near his father, his grandfather and his wife, the afore mentioned Isabelle de Beauvan.

Jean de Bourbon II was the 18th lineal descendant of King Charles le Chauve (Charles II, the Bald), born 13 June 823, died 6 October 877, King of France from 843-877 AD.

The above is an adapted translation from the Armorial General de la France (general Book of Heraldry of France, Volume 1 page xlii). Armorial General was originally published 1738 to 1768 in six registers and was reprinted with corrections in 1884. It was prepared for King Louis XV of France, who was the 25th lineal descendant of King Charles II. (Notice the different spellings of Beauvau). Angers is a chief town in the department of Meurthe-et-Moselle.

The top part of the CHAMBLEY history was adapted from a translation from Prevost, M. and D'Anat, Roman, eds. Dictionnaire de Biographie Francaise, Paris Librairie Letouzet et Ane, 1959 Volume 8, page 250. Translated into English by William Jones Chambliss, PhD. History, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY.

Problems concerning the confusion of CHAMBLEY, CHAMBLEI, CHAMBLEIRS, CHAMBLAS AND CHAMBLES.

If one consults a French Language biographical dictionary for the family name CHAMBLEY, it is mentioned CHAMBLEIS in 1207 and 1208 AD and CHAMBLEY in the 15th Century. Another French language reference work on place names of ancient Gaul (i.e. in the name CAMULUS with the suffix-acum). Later it appears as CHAMBLEIRS in 1185 AD, as Chambrey in 1296 AD and as CHAMBLEY in the 15th century. Since the place name CHAMBLEY is said to have become the family name, is it also safe to assume that the family name CHAMBLEIS, in 1207 and 1208 AD, was nothing more than another translation or misspelled form of the place name that evolved from CHAMBLEIRS, 1105 AD, to CHAMBREY, 1296 AD?

That is, was the lineage as follows; CAMULUS, CHAMBLEIRS, CHAMBLEIS, CHAMBREY, CHAMBLEY, CHAMBLEI??

CHAMBLEY AND CHAMBLEI are one and the same in French as "Y" and "I" are often interchangeable. For example the ARNORIAL GENERAL de la FRANCE refers to MARGUERITE de CHAMBLEI, whereas exactly the same person is referred to as CHAMBLEY in the DICTIONNAIRE de BIOGRAPHIC FRANCAISE.

CHAMBLEY gave its name to a Lorraine house, which had the following coat of arms; de sable a la croix d'argent accopagnee de quatre fleurs de lys d'or, (Silver Cross with four flowers of gold lys), By marriage this went to the house of Haracourt.

CHAMBLEY crest was jaws with three shells of gold on a field of red. This went to the house of BEAUVOISES.

CHAMBLEY was a town in the Oise Department, they were prominent makers of MAILLE, used by knights over the throat area as protection. They made both single and double maille.

CHAMBLEY parish was part of the ancient province of Treis-Eveches, it was the seat of a Barony and of a high and intermediary, also a low court dependant upon the King of France, taken from the following source; DICTIONNAIRE ETYMOLOGIQUE DES NAMS DE LIEUX ON FRANCE, (Etymological Dictionary of Place Names in France). Paris; Librairie Larousse, 1963 page 135.

This family crest has hung on the wall of Dr. John Randolph CHAMBLISS, M.D. of Rocky Mount, N.C. He told me someone sent it to his mother many years ago. This is also the family crest of Peter CHAMBLISS of Virginia, South Carolina and Mississippi.

L.B. CHAMBLISS
CAVE CITY, KY

Historical Summary

CHAMBLISS ---- CHAMBLESS

and

ALLIED FAMILIES

U.S.A

As far as I have been able to find out, there were three families of our name, some came bearing the name we have today to New Jersey, around Salem, but no where has there been any connection to our branch. Though they did use some of the more prominent names we still use today. Some of these came as large owners of slaves and aquired much land, others came as indentured servants learning a trade, yet even they later in life aquired much land, only one of these families later left New England and ventured to Arkansas, he will be listed in this history, though there seems to be no connection to our rather large families.

Three brothers left Ireland by the same name, one stayed in the north, the other two moved further south into North Carolina and Georgia, their last name was CHAMBLESS.

The one all of the early Virginia clans claim, came from Northumberland, England aboard the ship "GRESHAM" landing Charles City County Virginia in 1632. The first known record is of a John CHAMNESS seen on the College lands, but not of the Jamestown Colony. There are no records listed in any of the early histories of this man. One historian who did much work on this history stated the JOHN CHAMNESS at the start of the Revolution went back to England as he could not abide the idea of a different country here.

All of the early records of many of the coastal counties were destroyed when the British took over most of these places during the fighting. Later during the Civil War more records were destroyed. Though many historians have toiled for years trying to unravel this complicated history, errors have a tendency to pop up, nor will my history be any different as I am working more with peoples individual records than facts.

This John CHAMNESS had two children we know of and there may have been more. There was a Mrs. Ann CHAMBLISS transported to America, a widow, yet no records on her now exist. There was also a Robert de CHAMBLY, who came here from France in the early 1600's. There are very few sketchy records on him also

Over the years, the name as we know it today, has been spelled many different ways, yet the two more prominent ways that are prevaillent today are CHAMBLISS and CHAMBLESS. Though they spell the name two different ways they are the same family. Other ways such as SHAMBLISS: SHAMBLAR: SHAMBLY: CHAMBLY: CHAMBLEE: CHAMBERLESS: CHAMBERLAIN: CHAMBERS AND CHAMBLAIN. The first family of Henry CHAMNESS changed their names to what we use today; CHAMBLISS AND CHAMBLESS.

Our forefathers were traders, covering many states in their day, owning much land and many slaves. In one wedding I read in Jefferson county Mississippi, a father gave his daughter, as a wedding present "60 prized negroes". When one thinks that at the time a prized hand was worth between \$1500 and \$ 2500.00, that was an expensive wedding present.

Over the years, the families migrated to different states as the Indians were pushed back. Many of our forefather fought them for the right to live on the Indian lands. This occurred in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Tennessee, Kentucky and later as they migrated further to Texas, Missouri, Iowa, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, South Dakota, Nebraska and the far west. After the Civil War many families pulled up stakes in the south and moved to the mid-west and far-west, some even going back north. There was one family in the allied group who never left North Carolina. The only time the men were away from home was in time of war. Even after that they returned, raised their families and died not far from where they were born.

Of that first family I have found most of the male members. On the female side I am sorry to say that I have found nothing, though there is a historian in Oklahoma who says she has proof of who they married. It seems odd to me that out of all the people who have tried in vain to find this proof she came up with it. At least we know that someone has the proof.

That's the sad part of our history, as soon as a girl is married, she's written off, as she no longer carries the name, no one seems interested. You will find in this history I have gone out of my way to bring as many of them as I could find up to 1985. Otherwise I would have been done with this long ago.

Through the early part of this history there was one family that went everywhere we went, though there is no marriage on record anywhere in the South of this family marrying into ours, there are children named for this family and one of the early CHAMBLISS men left land to one of their children. In later history I found where two people were named for this family and one married a daughter of a lady of this name. This is the Golightly family. There are two people that I knew who are tracing this family to find the connection as well as I was.

This history does not follow along the guidelines of most histories, my facts have come from peoples bibles, other histories, individual histories of their family trees. I have not been able to travel like many genealogist do when they are ferreting out unseen manuscripts. I have had to rely on what many fine people all over the U.S. have sent me over the last ten years.

I started this history knowing one other CHAMBLISS family, the CHAMBLISS of Lookout Mountain outside of Chattanooga, Tenn., which I was fortunate enough to get to meet in 1945 while awaiting discharge from the Army at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia. Judge Alexander Wilds CHAMBLISS and his children. He was a first cousin to my

grandfather, his daughter-in-law, Bena CHAMBLISS got me interested in the history when she later sent me the direct line of our family. From this small beginning has come this large amount of work. The odd thing to me is where in the world were all these people of my generation, in all of the time I did travel over the U.S. I never met another living soul with either of these two names. I always thought this name was one of the rare ones. Come to find out we are thicker than hair on a dogs back!!

When I started the history I didn't have a index, instead I brought the names of the first father on down the line to the present generation. To some of the friends I made along the way, they suggested this was not the best, so now I have not only put in an index for the CHAMBLISS-CHAMBLESS families, but also one for the allied families so they want have any trouble finding their individual niches.

At the top of each heading one will find that I have brought your line right along so you can see how many generations there are of you in this young nation of ours. Some of you will have a few generations more than others. It goes by the length of ones family.

When you think back that the name CAM-U-LUS started in AD 838 then what you find at the top of each family is relatively new in our country, yet we are one of the oldest families in the United States, as we were here before this was America.

No doubt in my history, as others, there will appear errors, there is no way to omit all, for non of us can surely state what did transpire in those forgotten days. I have put here only what people have been good enough to send me. There was much controversary over who was the father of some of our forefathers, but with the help of three historians, I think this is a fair representative of our work. I have stated this history as truth-ful as possible.

L.B. (Hank) CHAMBLISS
Cave City, Kentucky
1985