- Website: AndreasKillian.com
- Killian DNA project www.familytreedna.com
- Mail List: Killian-L@rootsweb.com

# **Battle of Ramsour's Mill Historical Sketch**

Written by William L. Carpenter 1990

In the summer of 1780 the American revolutionaries were hurting for a victory. Charleston fell to the British and their Tory allies on May 12. On May 29 the British, under the command of Col. Banastare Tarleton, defeated the Patriots (Whigs, Rebels) in the Waxhaw settlement only 30 miles south of Charlotte.

As the war switched to the Southern Colonies in 1778, the British Southern strategy assumed that with a few victories by the King's troops the local citizens would flock to the British cause. By June 1780, the British, under the command of Lord Cornwallis, had control of most of South Carolina and Georgia. The strategy was working.

One of the most ardent supporters of the British cause was John Moore who had grown up on his father's farm along Indian Creek some six miles west of Ramsour's Mill in the new county of Lincoln. The British forces relied on the local settlers for food and feed for their horses. Cornwallis planned to wait until the 1780 crops were in before advancing into North Carolina. But John Moore did not wait. Now a Lieutenant Colonel, he returned to his home area. Along with Maj. Nicholas Welch, he issued a call for the supporters of the English King to come to his defense. In mid-June those responding to the call began assembling about one-half mile west of John Moore's

home. Captains were appointed and the troops were organized. Some 1200 strong (perhaps 900 equipped as fighting men) they marched to Ramsour's Mill.

Continued page 2...



Andreas Killian Monument St Paul's Lutheran Church

What's Inside

### **Association Officers**

President:	Dan Tingen
Vice President:	Dan Sipe
Secretary:	Sandy Phillips
Treasure:	Steve Killian
Webmaster::	Wayne Setzer
Newsletter:	Charles Killian
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· 21			1
and the second	~		.,
117	-		199
		-	

Encampment details	3
Obituaries	5
We Need you	4
DNA	5
Query	7

**Newslette** 

Ign

#### Page 2

#### . . .Continued from front page

Moore's exact intentions are not known but it has been assumed that he intended to attack Patriot forces under the command of Gen. Griffith Rutherford camped near Charlotte. Rutherford was in charge of the militia in western North Carolina. On June 14 he received word that the Tories were assembling in Lincoln County. He issued orders to Col. Francis Locke of Rowan County and several other officers to raise men to disperse the Tories. On June 19 they assembled with 400 men on Mountain Creek 16 miles east of Ramsour's Mill.

On June 18, Rutherford marched with 800 men from his camp near Charlotte to Tuckaseege Ford on the Catawba River. That evening he sent a messenger to Locke advising Locke to meet him at Col. Joseph Dickson's plantation about three miles northwest of Tuckaseege Ford. For some reason Locke never received the message.

On June 19 Locke and his officers discussed and debated their course of action, and finally decided to march throughout the night and attack the Tories at daybreak. A message was sent to Rutherford, informing him of their action and asking him to join them at the Tory encampment. This message was also not received.

They marched all night. Several small bands of Patriots joined them as they approached Ramsour's Mill. A dense fog settled in as day broke and the marching men approached the impending battlefield.

A small band of mounted troops continued westward along a main road to the mill while the main body of Locke's troops approached the Tory encampment from the south. The cavalry units were the first in action as they came upon Tory pickets along the road.

Meanwhile, the main body of Patriot troops advanced across a small branch and up the hill toward the Tory encampment. The fog was reported to be so heavy that it was impossible for the combatants to see each other until almost meeting.

The Tories responded to the attack with vigor and the Patriots retreated to the foot of the hill. Locke then reformed his troops and with other officers led one or more attacks up the hill.

The fighting was intense. At close range they clubbed each other with their guns. "As the battle progressed the fog lifted and revealed, like the rising curtain in a play, a terrible scene. There stood neighbor against neighbor, shooting each other down in mortal combat."

Finally, after the arrival of fresh Patriot troops (believed by the Tories to be Rutherford's troops) and Patriot flanking of both ends of the Tory lines, the Tories wavered and began a retreat towards the mill. Under a false flag of truce the Tories, in singles and small groups, dispersed. Most of them returned to their homes.

Families and friends arriving on the battlefield witnessed a ghastly scene. It was believed that around 70 were killed. Fifty-six lay dead on the side of the ridge where the heat of the battle was greatest. Others lay scattered on the flanks and over the ridge towards the mill. About 100 on each side were wounded and 50 Tories were taken prisoner.

Many dead and wounded were carried away by family and friends. Some were buried near where they had fallen, including a number from both sides laid together in a common grave.

How could some 500 Patriots defeat twice their number? The element of surprise was important. The fog probably helped. The attacking Patriots were better trained. This was probably the first action for most but they were members of the Militia and had received some military training while the Tories had been together for only a week.

Of what significance was this June battle of men so dedicated to the cause they believed that they were willing to risk their lives for it? In military terms, the troops lost were not particularly important. Control of the territory was. Tories in this battle that otherwise would have gone to join the British forces in South Carolina, or joined in their invasion of North Carolina, stayed home. Ramsour's Mill became their one and only battle. It eliminated the expected Tory support from a large section of North Carolina.

The psychological effects were tremendous. In a civil conflict such as this, it was much easier to solicit support for a winning cause.

Col. James Moore had been able to recruit more than a thousand men from the area. But following this battle (and a similar victory of Patriots over Tories at Kings Mountain later in the same year) Cornwallis marching through Lincoln County the following winter could not even obtain scouts to lead his troops and show him the roads.

It gave the Patriot cause a badly needed victory. At the most, Ramsour's Mill may have been where the British Southern strategy came unglued. At the least, it inspired the Patriots to fight on along the road to Yorktown.

## Ramsour's Mill Encampment and Battle Re-enactment Details — Killian Reunion — Saturday June 10 and Sunday June 11,2006

The Revolutionary Era (1763-1789) Andreas Killian (1702-1788) Come see a day in the lifetime of Andreas Killian

### **Schedule of Events:**

#### Saturday , June 10, 2006 9:00 am:

Parade begins across from Cultural Center on Main Street ,Lincolnton and goes to the site of the encampment next to Lincolnton High School. A local TV personality usually participates. Anyone can participate (kids can bike, wheelchairs, clans with banners, etc.) - just show up. You will need to make your own arrangements for return to town.

### 9:00am Saturday Until 3:00pm Sunday:

Re-enactors are setup at the encampment (practice field next to the Lincolnton High School football stadium). **Re-enactors are in colonial dress and carry out activities from colonial period. These activities span from weaving, cooking, soapmaking, blacksmithing, tomahawk throwing, cannon/ mortar practice, to doctors performing amputations! The re-enactors live there overnight on Saturday.** Plenty of parking and signage. Come see a day in the life of Andreas Killian.

#### 11:30 - 1:30 pm Saturday:

**FREE** Barbecue Lunch provided by the Historical Society. *The best reason in the world to come...Fellowship of Killian Cousins and a FREE lunch.* 

### 2:00 pm Saturday:

DAR Wreath Ceremony. Formal wreath laying ceremony at the mass gravesite, complete with bagpipes. The wreaths are to honor those that died. 70 unclaimed bodies, both Whig and Tory, were buried in one mass grave together. Last year 44 wreaths were laid.

#### 4:00 pm Saturday:

Battle Re-enactment using black powder, muzzle-loading rifles. Kids love this. Lasts about 30-45 minutes.

#### approx. 8:00-9:30pm Saturday:

Ghost Walk with Darrell Harkey around the Battleground talking about the battle itself. He has stories to tell!

### Sunday, June 11, 2006 11:00 am:

Church service at the log cabin next to encampment. Militia were required to attend church. Chairs are provided.

### 2:00 pm Sunday:

Battle Re-enactment like the one on Saturday. 30-45 minutes.

### 3:00 pm Sunday:

After battle, all re-enactors start packing up.

## The Killian Booth at Ramsour's Mill Re-Enactment Needs You!

**By Sandy Phillips** Please volunteer to participate in the Reunion! We need good representation of our family to man the booth at The Battle of Ramsour's Mill. You do NOT need to be a local resident! You do NOT need to be a genealogist! There will be many people stopping by to ask about their Killian kin. You will simply need to greet folks and just let the discussion go where it goes. This could simply be looking up a name in our resources on hand or taking their name, number and address for someone to follow up. We could learn a great deal! We also may have many more cousins who will want to participate in our annual get togethers. We will have shifts so that everyone has fun. No amount of volunteering is too small - if you only have an hour -We'll take it!!! Just give your name, address, email address, and phone. Include how much time you can give, what you can do or don't want to do. And in addition to just having a great time,

And in addition to just having a great time, I am adding an additional incentive!!! <u>It's a cozy lap quilt made by descendents of Andreas Killian!</u> I, along with my aunt, Kay Houser, and my mother, Ann Jenkins, made this quilt just for this year's reunion. All volunteers' names will go into a hat. <u>One lucky name will be drawn</u>. The winner will get to take the quilt home!!

<u>Please contact Cheryl Mann Killian 130 Rowan Road, Ellenwood, GA 30294.</u> <u>Telephone 770-507-8019, Fax 770-506-7157, Email fbcheryl@charter.net</u> Give your name, address, email address, phone, and how much time you can give, what you can do or don't want to do. We will prepare the schedule and get back to you. Your participation will mean a successful reunion!

# Mark your calendar and Make reservations

Be sure that you have June 10th and 11th, 2006 blocked out on your calendar!

The Killian Reunion will be in Lincolnton that weekend and it will be very exciting.

This year Association Offices added a June reunion in order to take advantage of the activities surrounding the Battle of Ramsour's Mill encampment and reenactment.

The Lincoln County Historical Society is hosting this annual event and will have volunteers in period costume acting out the living conditions at the time of the battle which was the summer of 1780.

You will see first hand a taste of the life and times of Andreas Killian!

Preferred Hotel of the Association Officers is:

Comfort Inn 1550 E. Main Street Lincolnton, NC 28092 (704) 732 - 0011

Another choice is:

Days Inn 614 Clark Drive Lincolnton, NC 28092 (704) 735 - 8271 **Obituary** Contributed by Eric Killian

### Killian, Bonnie H.

HICKORY, NC - Bonnie Marie Hubbard Killian, 88, of Granite Falls, died March 6, 2006, at Camelot Manor in Granite Falls. Born Feb. 20, 1918, in Alexander County, she was a daughter of the late S.T. Hubbard and Hattie Mae Bentley Hubbard. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ransom Atwell Killian Sr.; five brothers, Roy Hubbard, Joe Hubbard, Wilson Hubbard, Fred Hubbard and Ray Hubbard; two sisters, Diko Kerley and Rosa Boyce; and two stepchildren, Richard Killian and Mabelle Hedrick. Survivors include two sisters, Eveline Calloway of Granite Falls and Mano Lindsay of Hildebran; two daughters, Patricia Hawkins of Granite Falls and Joyce Brinkley of Hickory; a son, Ransom Atwell Killian Jr. of Hickory; a stepson, Roy D. Killian of Hickory; and a number of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren. The funeral will be conducted by the Rev. Randy Gibson at 2 p.m. Thursday at Bass-Smith Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will be in Catawba Memorial Park. Pallbearers will be her grandsons. The family will be at the funeral home from 7 to 8:30 tonight. **Bass-Smith Funeral Home and** Crematory is serving the Killian family.

### **Obituary** Contributed by Bill Hinds

Following obit pertains to RIN# 27873 in my database. He is a descendant of Margaret Killian and Michael Price.

### Larry P. Bailey, Ph.D.

MT. LAUREL, N.J. - Dr. Larry P. Bailey, 59, of Mt. Laurel, died Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2003 in a New Jersey hospital. Born in Bluefield, Nov. 14, 1944, he was the son of the late Robert E. Bailey and Louise Porterfield Bailey. He graduated from Bluefield High School. Dr. Bailey earned a B.S. Degree in Business from Concord College and a Master's and Ph.D. from the university of Pennsylvania. He was a professor of accounting at Rider University in Lawrenceville, N.J. He was also a cpa, and has published numerous articles in such journals as Management Accountant, CPA Journal and Governmental Accountants Journal. He is also the author of various books including the GAAS Guide and Governmental GAAP Guide. He is survived by two children, Kim Bailey Gaynor and husband, John of Berlin, N.J., and Larry P. Bailey Jr. and wife, Cissa of Toms River, N.J.; grandchildren, Ashlie Gaynor, Keli Gaynor, Genevieve Gaynor, Kaitlyn Sarah Gaynor of Berlin, and Dan Paige Bailey of Toms River; a sister, Gwen Musser and husband, Bob of War; and brother, Bob Bailey and wife, Carole of Washington, D.C. Funeral services will be Saturday, 10 a.m. at Bradley Funeral Home, Cherry Hill, N.J. Pallbearers will be members of the family. Information submitted by Mercer Funeral Home.

### 5 DNA Killian's are documented to be of Andreas' line By Mac Hayes and Cheryl Mann Killian

We now have five known descendants of Andreas; two samples are identical for the 25 DNA areas (called alleles) that are used for the Y-chromosome (male chromosome) comparison. The other three samples mutations all differ on different alleles, but these three are only one-step mutations. Without earlier Y-DNA samples we don't know which, if any, of these samples are perfect matches with Andreas. Of the Two having 25/25 marker matches; one is a descendant of Samuel C and the other descends from Daniel SR.

There is not a 'standard' at this time, not enough testees. It would be great if every Killian male in our group would provide a DNA sample. There are many of us who don't have the Killian name and can't take part personally; Mac Hayes, Bill Hinds, Wayne Milam, among many others. Mac Hayes paid for his mother's cousin's test, helping to prove he is a Killian. (see back page)

The project is also indebted to Ed R. Killian for being the first who is a confirmed Killian to spend the money for his test. If the project gets more participants, and enough of them show up with identical numbers to be statistically significant, then we can begin to consider a real Standard DNA profile for Andreas descendants.

The DNA Project could one day identify which son's line someone came from. Broken lineage would more positive direction to search.

The DNA Project could one day locate the Church Andreas was Baptized.

Family Tree DNA has recently revised the tests available, including two new 'higher resolution' tests. Cost of each higher number of markers (alleles) tested is higher (of course!), but the price of the 25-marker test is now lower than it was, the one which all members to date have taken. If an 'installment plan' would help, there is the possibility of taking the 25-marker test first, then upgrading to the higher level tests later.

Here is the list of current tests most applicable to the Killian Group: Y-DNA25 \$159 (this is the recommended test for the Killian DNA project) Y-DNA37 \$189 Y-DNA59 \$269

Upgrading to higher levels: Y-Refine to 37 \$49 Y-Refine to 59 \$148 59 markers will connect 2 cousins as close as 5 generations.

If you go to the FTDNA web site you will find a number of other tests available, but they are not useful for determining relationship with Andreas Killian. For those comfortable with ordering via the linternet you may order the test yourself. Or, if you prefer, just email me, Mac Hayes, mach37@comcast.net, or mail request to Cheryl Mann Killian, 130 Rowan Road, Ellenwood, GA 30294, she will forward request to me.

I will place the order for you. FTDNA accepts credit cards or payment by check. They mail the testing kit first, then you send in payment when you return the kit. All the details are on the web site, but you can ask me for details and any other questions you might have.

Sorry Ladies, the three mtDNA tests listed have no bearing on our Killian Group Testing, although a few members have taken them on their own initiative. Only if you can prove female line linage to the first wife of Andreas will the mtDNA test carry back to the Killian homeland somewhere in Rheinpalz, Bavaria, Palatinate, Germany

Killian Males contact Mac Hayes today. Join the project. Join in the discovery. Mac Hayes, mach37@comcast.net Visit www.familytreeDNA.com

# **DNA Proof**

### Jonas Conrad Dietz Killian

born; 25 APR 1827 in Lincoln County, NC Died: 14 OCT 1892 in Blackburn, Catawba, NC

DNA proof.... my male line is Killian.

My family probably has the distinction of being able to prove our relationship to Andreas through a female line, but not until DNA could I prove my male line was Killian.

My great great grandfather is Jonas Conrad Killian born 1827 Catawba County, NC. Jonas is the son of Sally Saloma Dietz, grandson of Sara Killian Dietz, great grandson of John Killian and great great grandson of Andreas. Jonas was born out of wedlock and was baptized, Jonas Conrad Dietz at Zion Lutheran Church, Catawba County in 1827. In 1830, Lincoln County, NC court records show that he was bonded to David Killian. When David Killian moves away, Jonas Killian is bonded to his uncle Emanuel Dietz. Jonas now uses Killian as his Christian surname. \*\*\*\*\*

Dose anyone have any bible, deeds, or court records to help me prove the lineage of Jonas Killian back to Andreas? Thanks, Lee Killian 1809 Brookdale AVE Charlotte, NC 28210 Ikillianjr.carolina.rr.com

### This column could be yours. By

Charles Killian, Editor

Are you tired of reading obituaries or the history of the era and area of Andreas Killian or about DNA?

Then make this column yours next time we go to print.

Lee Killian was the only one who had a query in a query format.

The reason there is so much on DNA, my wife and Mac Hayes exchange emails often. They have already reserved DNA space in the next Newsletter.

My only request is to keep your query, pedigree or article between 250-800 words. 800 words will fill a complete page. And please send photos.

by email: Ckilli@charter.net

by USPS snail mail: Charles Killian 130 Rowan Road Ellenwood, GA 30294

by fax: 770-506-7157

# About Me

Cheryl Mann Killian, Wife of Editor

Doing this newsletter with my husband has been interesting. We have worked on it as a team and while I could tweak the format for the next 3 months, but the newsletter has to be put to bed and sent to the printers. As I read our first finished and published newsletter last October I found several mistakes. Thanks everyone for your support in our effort in putting the newsletter together. No one offered or gave any criticism , which was nice because I am my greatest critic.

I need to acknowledge the Association of The Descendants of Andreas Killian Association family. I am a Killian by marriage. My husband Charles and I have attended the Killian reunion for several years. The reunion is held the second, Sunday of September, and is referred to as SSS. At our first reunion we met Wayne Milam and he helped me gather important information about my Killian-In-Law family. I have formed many Killian friends. Each has given me information, from deeds, to opinions, to research and insight to the life and times of my very on ancestors. My many thanks to : Wayne Milam Mac Hayes **Bill Hinds** James Green Linda Hoyle Frances Killian Schartman Ahh!! there are too many of you to name you all. So thanks to my Killian Cousins-In-Laws

A Publication of the Descendants of Pioneer Family Andreas Killian

Editor Charles David Killian, **DANIEL SR** 130 Rowan Road Ellenwood, GA 30294

#### **Return Service Requested**





### The Family of Mac Hayes

By Mac Hayes

Killian Photo

Vivian Mahala, 19 July 1905 - 1982; never married; twin of William Lydia Catherine Silvey, 31 March 1868 - 1946; wife of Henry Jonathan Vernice Marie, 7 Oct 1902 - 1990; m. Frederick Hodge Bessie Katheryn, 29 Feb 1908 - 25 Sep 2003; m. Albert Harrison Hayes Basil Vaughan, 17 Jan 1900 - 1978; never married Henry Jonathan KILLIAN, 17 May 1852 - 6 April 1923; died of influenza William Riley, 19 Jul 1905 - 20 March 1923; died of influenza; twin of Vivian Mahala.

The father of Henry Jonathan Killian was William Riley Killian, b. 3 May 1814 - d. 13 Oct 1860, whose father was apparently an unknown William Killian.

The Y-DNA25 test of a descendant of WRK has a 1-marker 1-step difference from six of the current (Dec 2005) Killian DNA test group. Proving he is related to Andreas Killian



Research by Wayne Milam and Gene Killian points to WRK being an unknown son of Andrew Killian, Sr., b. about 1752 in Lincoln Co, NC, son of Leonard Killian, son of Andreas. William Riley's mother was apparently Sarah Mingus, who appears living next door to WRK in the 1840 and 1850 Censuses of Haywood County, NC. The Lincoln County Court of Pleas session minutes for July, 1821, mention a "son of Sarah Mingers," and same court session minutes of October, 1821, "Ordered by Court that William R. Killian 7 years old the 3d day of last May be bound to Henry Mengers until the said apprentice shall attain to lawful age to learn the trade of House Carpenter who is to learn the said William to read & write."