

From: [Brent J. Belnap](#)
To: dhfw80d@gmail.com
Cc: [Kirk Belnap](#); [Matthew Purcell](#); stevekristybelnap@gmail.com; [Larry Julian](#)
Subject: Belnap Family Organization: Eunice Hall--Autosomal DNA Connection
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 5:11:00 PM

Don:

I have consolidated into this single reply various email threads on the topic of DNA links to Eunice Hall (1762-1849), wife of Jesse Belnap (1760-1854). (I personally don't favor disjointed email communications, so I have combined prior messages on this subject that were in reply to my first message on 15 Nov 2021.)

Here is an attempt to summarize the facts/thoughts that lead me to think—for now, and solely as a tentative proposal—that Eunice Hall “might” be the daughter of James Hall (1730-1804) and Abigail Beers (1731-1801), both of whom were born in Fairfield, Fairfield, Connecticut (15 miles south of Redding, Fairfield, Connecticut, where our Eunice Hall was born 25 May 1762), and died in Woodbury, Litchfield, Connecticut—further inland and northeast of both Fairfield and Redding.

Whoever Eunice Hall's parents turn out to be, even more defensible from DNA linkages is the possibility that our Eunice Hall is a granddaughter of James Hall's parents, Francis Hall (1705-1735) and Ann Seeley (1707-1779). Based on currently known family members, this relationship would most likely need to come through the son of the James Hall mentioned above, as their son Francis (1730-1771; twin brother of James), relocated to Gloucester, Virginia, and you have already documented why our Eunice is not the daughter of their other son, Eleazer Hall (1732-1789), who married Mary Lake (1733-1791).

(Note that Eleazer Hall/Mary Lake's daughter Deborah Hall (1758-1801) was married at Redding, CT a few weeks after our Eunice Hall was married to Jesse Belnap at the same place to another soldier, Giles Gilbert—who was also an “artificer” with Putnam's unit same as Jesse Belnap. If my current supposition is correct, our Eunice Hall and Deborah Hall who both married soldiers/artificers from the same military unit would have been first cousins.)

I obtained an autosomal DNA test from my father, Gordon Leslie Belnap, before he died in Jun 2021. So far, I have found a DNA match with Gordon to someone named “T.S.” who is descended of a man named Juniper Hall (or Geneper Hall or Juniper Patrick Hall) who was born about 1769 and died 7 Jan 1828 in Emanuel County, Georgia. The shared connection is 8 cM which would indicate a range of 5th-8th cousins. After reviewing all lineages showing for “T.S.” and accounting for my father's relatively unique ties to New England/CT that would preclude any other close connection to any other Hall family (he is half Swedish/Norwegian, 1/8 1850s British Isles, plus discounting no plausible alternative connections to Gordon's other known Belnap, Knight, McBride, Mead ancestry), I am convinced that Gordon shares DNA with “T.S.” through Francis Hall/Ann Seeley of Fairfield County, CT. The closest DNA match would be to, who I believe to be, Juniper's parents, James Hall (1730-1804) and Abigail Beers (1731-1801)—although there are some fairly strong views that Juniper couldn't possibly have roots from CT, he being a Georgia man and y'all. Juniper shows up in Georgia sometime after 1790—after the American Revolution. He appears to have definite DNA ties to a

Henry and Reuben Hall with ties in Maryland and Virginia—and to us. I have done some deeper sleuthing on this person Juniper and, while it appears that his parentage hasn't been fully confirmed, the best current explanation, based on currently available evidence, is that his father was James Hall (1730-1801)—the only known likely candidate son of Francis Hall (1705-1735). Unfortunately, the lineage of "T.S." in Ancestry does not appear to be entirely reliable and differs from other available genealogies of Juniper's descendants.

It appears that the James Hall/Abigail Beers family was not well documented in CT—which isn't so common, given how well the towns were known to keep civil registrations, but also not unheard of. It is possible that at least two possible children—our Eunice Hall and Juniper Hall, as potential siblings (and perhaps others, who have ties to VA/MD), were simply not documented. Note that the birth of at least one son of James Hall/Abigail Beers was not recorded: James Seeley Hall, born about 1768, died 29 Apr 1770 in Bridgeport, Fairfield, CT. Note that our Eunice Hall fits nicely within the known family members of James Hall/Abigail Beers:

Sarah Hall, b. 8 Feb 1756, d. 15 Nov 1777

Olive Hall, b. 29 Oct 1760, d. 19 Feb 1847, married David Jackson (1760-1814)

Eunice Hall, b. 25 May 1762, d. 12 Mar 1849; married Jesse Belnap (1760-1854)

James Seeley Hall, b. abt 1768, de. 29 Apr 1770

Juniper Hall, b. abt 1769, d. 7 Jan 1828 (not confirmed yet as a family member except potentially through DNA and records stating he was the son of "James Hall")

~ possibly other male siblings

Here is the message I sent via Ancestry to "T.S." back in Nov 2021 for which I have yet to receive a reply:

NOVEMBER 18, 2021

04:33 PM

ancestry.com

Dear T.S.: My name is Brent Belnap. I see that we (or someone on whose behalf you manage a DNA test) have an autosomal DNA match on Ancestry.com. The closest match appears to be through Francis Hall (1705-1734 [1735]) and his wife Ann Seeley (1707-1779), or through their son James Hall (1730-1804) and his wife Abigail Beers (1731-1801). Your ancestor, Juniper Patrick Hall (abt 1769-1828) could be a younger brother to our earliest known Hall ancestor, Eunice Hall (1762-1849) who married Jesse Belnap (1760-1854), my 4th great grandparents. Either way, we are definitely connected through the Hall family of Fairfield County, Connecticut. I am not clear how your ancestor, Juniper Patrick, made it to Georgia from CT, but he appears to have received several land grant bounties, presumably for military service in the War of 1812 (as he was too young for land bounties for any service in the American Revolution). I would welcome the opportunity to compare additional DNA links you might show on your account (and that might not be visible on mine) to other potential shared Hall relatives, in order to confirm the most likely parentage of our Eunice Hall (1762-1849). We think we are close to making a genetic breakthrough, but require additional information from other descendants and identified DNA relatives of Eunice Hall. I hope you will be willing to collaborate on this mutually beneficial venture. I can be reached at brent@brentjbelnap.com or (646) 320-7707. I hope to hear from you

at your earliest convenience! Kind regards, Brent

Another autosomal DNA match with ties through Georgia to James Hall is “Donna McCurry.” The shared connection with Gordon is 6 cM with a range of 5th to 8th cousins. Unfortunately, the documented connection this person’s tree is even less clear. Here is the message I sent to her in Nov 2021 for which I have yet to receive a reply:

Dear Donna McCurry: My name is Brent Belnap. I see that we (or someone on whose behalf you manage a DNA test) have an autosomal DNA match on Ancestry.com. The closest match appears to be through Francis Hall (1705-1734) and his wife Ann Seeley (1707-1779), or though their son James Hall (1730-1804) and his wife Abigail Beers (1731-1801). Your ancestor, Elizabeth A. Padgett Rowell, appears to be connected to someone named Juniper Patrick Hall (abt 1769-1828), who according to DNA matching could be a younger brother (or first cousin) to our earliest known Hall ancestor, Eunice Hall (1762-1849) who married Jesse Belnap (1760-1854), my 4th great grandparents. Either way, we are definitely connected through the Hall family of Fairfield County, Connecticut. I am not clear how your possible ancestor, Juniper Patrick, made it to Georgia from CT, but he appears to have received several land grant bounties, presumably for military service in the War of 1812 (as he was too young for land bounties for any service in the American Revolution). I would welcome the opportunity to compare additional DNA links you might show on your account (and that might not be visible on mine) to other potential shared Hall relatives, in order to confirm the most likely parentage of our Eunice Hall (1762-1849). We think we are close to making a genetic breakthrough, but require additional information from other descendants and identified DNA relatives of Eunice Hall. I hope you will be willing to collaborate on this mutually beneficial venture. I can be reached at brent@brentjbelnap.com or (646) 320-7707. I hope to hear from you at your earliest convenience! Kind regards, Brent

Although there are a lot of “uploaded tree” matches for Gordon to members of the Hall family, these are the most clearly connected matches available thus far that extend beyond Gilbert/Rosel Belnap. There are other Gilbert Belnap descendants who link with “T.S”, “Donna McCurry”, or both.

Please note that Gordon’s match to “M.H.” through Anna Hall (1762-1848) that I initially discussed below remains the only one through Eleazer Hall/Mary Lake. However, at 10 cM, it is a “longer”/stronger match than “T.S.” and “Donna McCurry.” Also, Gordon shares two additional 4th-6th cousin matches with “M.H.”: Charles Beeley (22 cM—to tree) and Sterling Rice (20 cM—no tree; connection mentioned earlier)—both of whom are linked to other descendants of Gilbert Belnap.

Please also note that I am not currently aware of any autosomal DNA matches between Gordon and any possible Hall family members in Connecticut that extend further back beyond Francis Hall (1705-1735) and Ann Seeley (1707-1779). With Gordon being 6 generations from Eunice Hall, we seem to be at about the limit on what we can uncover via autosomal DNA. I believe it is urgent that we check DNA results of other great grandchildren of Gilbert Belnap as soon as possible, as there aren’t many left and they are dying off quickly.

Again, based on the above, it seems nearly incontrovertible based on known DNA linkages that,

whoever Eunice Hall's parents turn out to be, our Eunice Hall is a granddaughter of James Hall's parents, Francis Hall (1705-1735) and Ann Seeley (1707-1779). The question is "To which male Hall son of Francis Hall/Ann Seeley was our Eunice Hall (1762-1849) born?" I propose that it is James Hall (1730-1804) and not his twin Francis Hall (1730-1771) or younger brother Eleazer Hall (1732-1789) for reasons previously noted. As science is the time-honored process of disproving a hypothesis, please try to prove the above proposed lineage wrong.

Interested in your thoughts regarding the above and whether you are aware of other Hall family matches beyond those noted above. Please also note that I have additional information on Juniper Hall that could be used to make the documented case that he is a younger sibling or first cousin of our Eunice Hall.

Kind regards,

Brent

From: Don Hammon <dhw80d@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 31, 2022 1:32 AM

To: Brent J. Belnap <brentjbelnap@ChurchofJesusChrist.org>

Subject: Re: [Ext:] Re: Belnap Family Organization: Eunice Hall--Autosomal DNA Connection

Hi Brent, Unfortunately I have James having four children and none of them Eunice. Being Eleazer's brother puts him in the right place, as well as being the child of Francis, and grandchild of Isaac of Redding, CT. Do you have some DNA connection you are working on that may shine some more light on him?

Didn't send the Crier off, had some typos needed to correct first, hope to by this week's end.

From: Don Hammon <dhw80d@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 2, 2022 12:54 PM

To: Brent J. Belnap (Permanent Personal) <brent@brentjbelnap.com>

Subject: [Ext:] DNA

[External Email]

Haven't got an answer to last query regarding James Hall, but nevertheless I was running DNA today looking for Belknaps and was surprised to see the many connections (5-8th cousins) with the Haverhill Belknaps and one from a descendant of Jesse (1739-1818)'s brother Simeon Belknap. There are likely more but only looked at a few. Did you get access to any of the grandchildren of Martha Jane that have their DNA online? I think this will be the answer eventually with the Halls. I was researching of late Eunice, wife of Jesse Belknap (1739) and of course many others have but I see no proof yet posted of this ancestry. Looking independently of others findings, and searching through just the vital records of Enfield, CT, where some of Samuel's children were born while they lived near Somers, I identified four Euinces of that age group and was able to narrow them down to one, Eunice Hall. Then I reviewed FamilySearch and others listed her as the mother of Jesse (1760), but again left no clues how this was determined. I still have not found the smoking gun, but maybe that

too will be in the DNA, if she is truly the mother. Some interesting finds was that Ichabod Hall, her father, served with both Ebenezer and Jesse Belnap in the French and Indian War. Records are sketchy there in Tolland area anyway, but hopefully will locate something. Any DNA matches from your dad's DNA of other Halls? Sure would be great news to positively ID this Eunice.

According to one article I read too, Ichabod was living in Vermont, but cannot find anything on that. Only that he did die in Massachusetts.

Crier coming this week, details later.

--

Don Hammon

From: Don Hammon <dhfw80d@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 31, 2022 1:32 AM

To: Brent J. Belnap <brentjbelnap@ChurchofJesusChrist.org>

Subject: Re: [Ext:] Re: Belnap Family Organization: Eunice Hall--Autosomal DNA Connection

Hi Brent, Unfortunately I have James having four children and none of them Eunice. Being Eleazer's brother puts him in the right place, as well as being the child of Francis, and grandchild of Isaac of Redding, CT. Do you have some DNA connection you are working on that may shine some more light on him?

Didn't send the Crier off, had some typos needed to correct first, hope to by this week's end.

From: Don Hammon <dhfw80d@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, August 3, 2022 7:21 PM

To: Brent J. Belnap (Permanent Personal) <brent@brentjbelnap.com>

Subject: [Ext:] DNA MATCH

[External Email]

Was looking at Hall DNA matches to me and have only one that is direct and that is Lois Hall, born 1735, sister to Eunice Hall, daughter of Ichabod. Just a sliver of DNA, but we had no other matches. You can check your and your dads. avarn6317

--

Don Hammon

On Fri, Jul 29, 2022 at 5:22 PM Brent J. Belnap <brentjbelnap@churchofjesuschrist.org> wrote:
Known DNA linkages currently seem to be pointing to James Hall (1730-1804) and his wife Abigail Beers (1731-1801) as Eunice Hall's parents. More work to do. Hoping we can make the breakthrough sooner rather than later.

Brent

From: Don Hammon <dhfw80d@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2022 4:11 PM

To: Brent J. Belnap <brentjbelnap@ChurchofJesusChrist.org>

Subject: [Ext:] Re: Belnap Family Organization: Eunice Hall--Autosomal DNA Connection

[External Email]

Brent any update on this to report? Crier needs substance

On Wed, Apr 6, 2022 at 7:18 PM Don Hammon <dhfw80d@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Brent. I was wondering if you have made any headway on this DNA for Eunice Hall? Would like to have something written up for Crier soon. Thanks.

From: Don Hammon <dhfw80d@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2021 3:53 PM

To: Brent J. Belnap <brentjbelnap@ChurchofJesusChrist.org>

Subject: Re: Belnap Family Organization: Eunice Hall--Autosomal DNA Connection

Brent; talked to John wiser and his dna is on ancestry. Contact him for access or help. Working on others.

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 16, 2021, at 1:36 PM, Brent J. Belnap <brentjbelnap@churchofjesuschrist.org> wrote:

Sounds good. FYI, two other great grandchildren, Charles Belnap Jeppson, who descends through Augustus Weber, and William James Black, who descends through William James, have also taken an Ancestry.com autosomal DNA test. WJB's text is managed by his daughter Tawni. I have reached out to her with the following message:

Dear Tawni: My name is Brent Belnap. I am a 2nd great grandson of Gilbert Belnap through his son Hyrum. You are my third cousin through Gilbert's son William James. I am contacting you on behalf of the Belnap Family Organization because I see that you manage an Ancestry.com autosomal DNA test on behalf of your father, William James Black, who appears on my list of DNA matches. We are specifically looking for great grandchildren of Gilbert's (there were 590 great grandchildren, of whom perhaps less than 50 are still living) who have taken, or who would be willing to take, the Ancestry.com autosomal DNA test in order to help us confirm the parentage of Gilbert's paternal grandmother, Eunice Hall (1762-1849), wife of Jesse Belnap (1760-1854). We are starting to receive notifications of linkages with other persons who connect to a particular branch of the Hall family that resided in Fairfield County, Connecticut in the 1700s, but need to access additional great grandchildren accounts to search for additional DNA connections that might not appear across all great grandchildren. I know that this might sound confusing, but

the concept is actually quite simple and involves using multiple points of triangulation to ascertain the most likely parents of Eunice Hall (which are NOT Eleazer Hall and Mary Lake as many have erroneously submitted to FamilySearch). I would love to "meet" you and explain further what we need and how you, as the administrator of William James Black's DNA account, might be able to help us. My email address is brent@brentjbelnap.com and my mobile number is (646) 320-7707. I hope to hear back from you at your earliest convenience! Kind regards, Brent

Hopefully, I will hear back.

Brent

From: Don Hammon <dhfw80d@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, November 16, 2021 2:28 PM

To: Brent J. Belnap <brentjbelnap@ChurchofJesusChrist.org>

Subject: Re: Belnap Family Organization: Eunice Hall--Autosomal DNA Connection

Unfortunately no access but hopefully can contact the person. I do understand how that works, have done this on a few lines in the past.

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 16, 2021, at 10:13 AM, Brent J. Belnap <brentjbelnap@churchofjesuschrist.org> wrote:

Do you have internal access to Glen's account? Knowing that Glen is on Ancestry.com is interesting, but without further insight available through access to his account to other unique potential DNA connections to Hall family members, there is nothing further that I can do.

Think of what we're looking for as a form of geospatial triangulation, using, as a form of illustration, mountain peaks along the Wasatch Front:

Someone atop Ben Lomond (in Weber County, north of Ogden), is trying to map remotely Mount Olympus behind Salt Lake City. Meanwhile, someone on Mount Timpanogos (in Utah County, east of Orem/Provo), is trying to do the same thing from another direction. Both persons on Ben Lomond and Timp are limited in their respective vantage points. However, if they fully communicate and share with each other what they both see, they can determine distance, height, etc. So, Gordon (on Ben Lomond) and Glen (on Mount Timp), all alone, can't tell us much beyond that they can both individually "see" DNA links through Eunice Hall (on Mount Olympus). However, if they fully share, then we can start triangulating in a meaningful way.

Gilbert would have inherited roughly (but not necessarily exactly) 25% of his DNA from Eunice Hall. Gilbert's initial 25% DNA inheritance is now scattered among his descendants, but only in sufficiently sizeable quantities to confirm relationship scientifically down to about 4-5 generations—down to his great grandchildren and, although probably just barely, his 2nd great grandchildren (my generation).

The more great grandchildren we can test (and for whom we can obtain full account access), the better.

Let me know if you have or can obtain full access to Glen's account. If not, would he (or another great grandchild) be willing to be (re-)tested and access given to me and/or BFO?

Thanks.

Brent

From: Don Hammon <dhfw80d@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, November 16, 2021 3:46 AM

To: Brent J. Belnap <brentjbelnap@ChurchofJesusChrist.org>

Subject: Re: Belnap Family Organization: Eunice Hall--Autosomal DNA Connection

Glen Hammon McEntire's DNA on ancestry.

On Mon, Nov 15, 2021 at 1:11 PM Brent J. Belnap <brentjbelnap@churchofjesuschrist.org> wrote:
Don, it would be great if you could line up other great grandchildren on your branch to do an autosomal DNA test before they pass, and then share access to the results so that we can triangulate relationships to narrow down the most likely "gateway" male Hall ancestor. Hyrum has only two remaining grandchildren from his first wife, but one lives far away and the other, while residing quite close to us, might be *non compos mentis* to agree to a test, but I will try. It would be much preferred to have additional branches of the family involved, as the Hall genetic inheritance that came to Hyrum is already partly known by virtue of my father's test results. Better to expand the breadth to maximize additional potential matches.

Thanks.

Brent

From: Don Hammon <dhfw80d@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021 1:54 PM

To: Brent J. Belnap <brentjbelnap@ChurchofJesusChrist.org>

Subject: Re: Belnap Family Organization: Eunice Hall--Autosomal DNA Connection

Four great children in the Daniel Glen Hammon line, I think one or two did theirs
Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 15, 2021, at 12:43 PM, Don Hammon <dhfw80d@gmail.com> wrote:
Yes I do have that research done with Francis being our ancestor including the Seelys whose line is already substantial on my mother's side.
Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 15, 2021, at 12:37 PM, Brent J. Belnap <brentjbelnap@churchofjesuschrist.org> wrote:

FYI, we have two DNA links to James Hall (b. 1730), twin to a Francis Hall and brother to Eleazer (b. 1732), all of whom are children of Francis Hall and Anne Seeley. Until we get more tests, we can't confirm exactly which Hall son would most likely be our Eunice Hall's father, but as of right now Anne (daughter of Eleazer, at 10 cM) and James (brother of Eleazer, at 8 cM) are the strongest matches.

From: Brent J. Belnap

Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021 1:32 PM

To: Don Hammon <dhfw80d@gmail.com>

Subject: RE: Belnap Family Organization: Eunice Hall--Autosomal DNA Connection

It would appear that "Eunice" is a family given name for females within a certain branch of the Hall family in Fairfield County.

On Mon, Nov 15, 2021 at 12:30 PM Brent J. Belnap <brentjbelnap@churchofjesuschrist.org> wrote:

Yes, I cited your earlier research. But that still leaves the question as to what, exactly, to make of the DNA match, which is not the only one linking Gilbert to other Hall individuals in the same area, including possibly a Francis, Ichabod, etc. The "match" with Anna Hall perhaps isn't as a sister but could be a first or possibly second cousin. Eleazer might not be the father, but could be an uncle or first cousin something removed. We are on the right Hall line according to the genetics science. It's a matter of fleshing out exactly how, I think. More autosomal tests could help.

From: **Don Hammon** <dhfw80d@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Nov 15, 2021 at 12:20 PM

Subject: Re: Belnap Family Organization: Eunice Hall--Autosomal DNA Connection

To: Kirk Belnap <kirkbelnap@gmail.com>

Kirk, just to inform you, I have already proved that Elazer Hall is not the father of Eunice Hall. The Eunice, daughter of Eleazer lived on many years in Connecticut and filed a will. The Halls of the area, which I have details shows likely still the ancestry of Eunice.

On Mon, Nov 15, 2021 at 12:02 PM Kirk Belnap <kirkbelnap@gmail.com> wrote:

Thanks for sharing, Brent!

Unfortunately, all of the greatgrands in my direct line, my dad and his siblings, have moved on.

On Nov 15, 2021, at 8:18 PM, <brent.j.belnap@gmail.com> <brent.j.belnap@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear All:

We have an [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) autosomal DNA test match through Gilbert Belnap to my father, Gordon

Leslie Belnap (now deceased), through a woman named Anna Hall, born 30 Apr 1762, baptized 16 May 1762, in Trumbull, Fairfield, Connecticut, to Eleazer Hall and Mary Lake; later married Edward Duncombe; died 18 Jun 1848 in Easton, Fairfield, Connecticut. The DNA connection is 10 cM across 1 segment with a person identified as “M.H.” who is a 5th cousin once removed to Gordon. (Because I am one generation further removed, this connection does not appear on my [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) DNA matches.) The cM rate is statistically high enough to confirm it is within the realm of possible DNA relationship with Gordon within the 5th to 8th cousin range. (“M.H.” and Gordon also connect with someone identified as “sterling rice” across 20cM. Unfortunately, this other connection has not uploaded an ancestral lineage chart to [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) against which to compare potential lineage connections.) The descent of “M.H.” from Anna Hall appears at first glance to be defensible. Based on the birthdates and level of DNA connection, Anna would appear to be a sister of Eunice Hall (1762-1849), wife of Jesse Belnap (1760-1854) and paternal grandmother of Gilbert Belnap.

In other words, through autosomal DNA testing, we might finally have made a breakthrough on the previously unknown (but still highly speculated lineage of Eunice Hall). However, there are several important documentation problems that remain before we can consider the parentage of Eunice Hall to be resolved:

- For starters, Anna Hall is recorded in the Barbour Collection as having been born 30 Apr 1762 in Trumbull, Fairfield, Connecticut. Eunice Hall’s birthdate, from Phillips Cemetery, North East, Erie, Pennsylvania records, is shown as 25 May 1762. That is a birthday gap between Anna and Eunice of only 3.5 weeks, which is impossible. (Eunice’s death notice, which appeared in the *Erie Observer* on 7 Apr 1849, lists her age as 86 (meaning a 1762-1763 birth year). If Eunice Hall was, indeed, born on 25 May 1762, then she would have been within two months short of her 87th birthday. However, even if the death notice and cemetery record dates fit nicely, they were made many years after Eunice’s actual birthdate and could very easily be off either direction by several years.) If—and this is still a big IF—Eunice Hall is, indeed, the sister of Anna Hall, then either (a): Anna’s birth year is incorrect (not likely, based on the record source) or (b) Eunice’s birth year is incorrect—which would be more likely, although there is no record yet found in CT, for which 18th Century births are pretty well documented, for any Eunice born in 1762. (There is a birth record for another Eunice Hall, born 28 Apr 1763 in Waterbury, New Haven, Connecticut, to Nathaniel Hall and Margery, baptized 20 Nov 1763 in Wallingford, New Haven, Connecticut.)
- Even if Anna and Eunice are indeed DNA/biological sisters, Don Hammon has persuasively documented an entirely different Eunice Hall as a daughter of the same Eleazer Hall and Mary Lake, who was born 4 Mar 1770 in Connecticut and who married Andrew Curtis. A summary of Don’s research is available on the BFO website here: http://belnapfamily.org/Email_Don_Hammon_to_Brent_J_Belnap_2018-12-24.docx. While it was not uncommon in colonial New England for parents to give a later-born child the same name as an earlier born child, that was done only in the event of the death of the earlier named child.
- And what to make of Deborah Hall, born perhaps 16 Dec 1758 in Trumbull, Fairfield, Connecticut (but also not found in the Barbour Collection), and who married on 23 May 1779 Giles Gilbert, also an “artificer” in the American Revolution in Redding, Fairfield, Connecticut

—less than one month after Eunice Hall and Jesse Belnap were married, also in Redding, on 28 Apr 1779 (and later renewed their marriage vows on 10 Sep 1779 in Redding)? A family connection between Eunice and Deborah, who is yet another daughter of Eleazer Hall and Mary Lake, does seem likely.

So, what to make of this autosomal DNA connection between Anna Hall, daughter of Eleazer Hall and Mary Lake, and Gilbert Belnap's paternal grandmother Eunice Hall? Is Anna Hall (1762-1848) a sister to Eunice Hall (1762-1849)? If so, then what is Eunice's actual birthdate? Is it possible that Eunice was not really 16 (going on 17) but actually only 15 (going on 16, born a year later in 1763), when she married Jesse Belnap (who, himself, was only 18 at the time)? And how could there possibly be two "Eunice Hall" daughters alive at the same time in the same nuclear family?

Interested in your thoughts, ideas, comments, additions, corrections, etc. Meanwhile, it would be super helpful if we could get a few more living great grandchildren of Gilbert Belnap (the oldest remaining generation, but who are fading fast—perhaps less than 50 out of 590 great grandchildren are still living) from different branches of the family to take [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) autosomal DNA tests to see what other cM matches might show up. (Given the way that DNA combines and is passed from one generation to the next, it is entirely possible for Eunice Hall's genetic inheritance that was passed on to other great grandchildren of Gilbert could vary quite a bit from the segment that my father Gordon received. And the more matching segments we can find, the better.)

Kind regards,

Brent

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