



THE YNGHA NEWSLETTER

A publication of the Yarbrough National Genealogical & Historical Association

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/104638336267561>

Incorporated 1947 -- Winter 2026

Interim publication to the *Yarbrough Family Quarterly*, last published April 2023

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From Our President



Steve A. Yarbrough



The Yarbrough National Genealogical and Historical Association (YNGHA) is attempting to re-establish several aspects of our great organization. Let me introduce myself, your current YNGHA President, and some objectives that we are attempting to correct in the coming months.

Professionally, I am Chief Operations Officer at RSecure, driving the company's operational strategy, ensuring mission readiness, efficiency, and scalability across all programs. With more than four decades of experience in national security, intelligence, and technology operations, I bring global perspective and proven ability to align innovation with complex mission requirements.

My career began as president of Woomera Technology—acquired by RavenTek and rebranded as RSecure in 2022—leading teams delivering advanced IT, cloud, and cybersecurity solutions in support of counterterrorism, intelligence, and law enforcement missions worldwide. Earlier, I held senior positions at CENTRA Technology and served as the National Intelligence Collection Officer (NICO) within the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, supporting the Western Hemisphere and guiding homeland and foreign intelligence initiatives for the National Security Council.

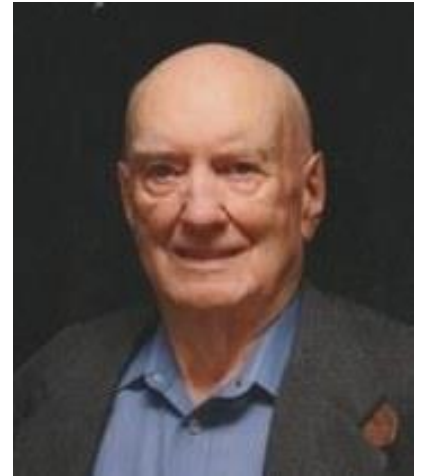
As a retired Foreign Service Officer and former U.S. Army Intelligence Advisor, my career has spanned continents and critical moments in modern history, helping shape U.S. diplomatic, security, and technology efforts in a rapidly changing global landscape.

I believe my diverse professional experience will certainly come in handy guiding YNGHA. Currently, the Association is going through some challenging times. Our beloved Webmaster, Leonard Yarbrough of Alabama, recently passed away. He was such an integral part of our association, it takes more of us to accomplish everything he did. The Board decided to postpone our conference in October and reschedule. We are working hard to regain our former level of competency so that we can . . .

Continued on page 3.

In Memorium

Leonard S. Yarbrough
1934—2025



A Life of Service, Science, & Storytelling

Leonard Sherwood Yarbrough, PhD, PE., 90, died peacefully at his home in the Rock Springs community in Blount Co., AL, on Saturday, 2 August 2025, a mere 30 miles as the crow flies from where he was born on 22 December 1934 in present-day Gardendale, AL.

"Been there, done that" may be stretching things, but it's close enough to describe the life of Leonard. Leonard was an engineer, technologist, proposal manager, army officer, teacher, mentor, amateur radio operator, published poet and writer, editor, family historian, genealogist, webmaster, and most important to these writers, Dad.

He was assigned extended temporary duty on behalf of the National Science Foundation with the Office of Polar Programs to acquire first-hand knowledge of planning for scientific operation in extreme environments and census taking of penguin and seal colonies. In conjunction with this assignment, he spent two [austral summers](#) in Antarctica, serving periods as the ranking civilian for engineering, operational, and diplomatic purposes, culminating with **Mount Yarbrough**, in the Thomas Hills in the Patuxent Range of the Pensacola Mountains, being named in honor of his contributions.

He developed a passion for researching and preserving the **Yarbrough family ancestry**. He soon became editor of the family association's family quarterly journal and helped guide the association through digitizing 70 years of family records as well as through the challenges of DNA testing to family relationships. He also became the executive director of the family association.

He returned to Alabama, living for 20 years on his beloved place in Blount County, where generations of his Dad's people hailed from. He published a book of poems and another of short stories describing his first three decades of life. Not one to sit on his laurels, he served as webmaster of four websites and assisted not-for-profit organizations to incorporate and obtain tax exempt status. For 73 years, he was an active ham radio operator, was a lifetime member of the Amateur Radio Relay League, and he served as a volunteer examiner.

Leonard, the only son of **Levis Harvey Yarbrough** and Olga Josephine Janssen Yarbrough, was predeceased by his parents and sister, Mary Josephine Yarbrough Rainey. He is survived by daughters, Kathleen Elizabeth Yarbrough Ferguson and Susan Helena Yarbrough, and son, N Leonard Kirkwood Yarbrough, daughter-in-law, Ingrid Moran, his former wife, Elizabeth Kirkwood Yarbrough, and granddaughter Opal Clara Lehman, along with nephew, Eddie Taylor, and nieces Terry Townsend and family, and Robin McGraw and family.

As he wished, Leonard's ashes were spread over Antarctica and the family dog cemetery, with the remainder interred at Oaklawn Cemetery in Birmingham, AL.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Blount County (Alabama) Historical Museum, Alabama Public Television, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, or Alabama Sheriff's Youth Ranches.

<https://obits.al.com/us/obituaries/huntsville/name/leonard-yarbrough-obituary?id=59128674>

We will miss you, Leonard!

In Memory

December 2025 – January 2026

David Yarbrough -- Kentucky

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/louisville-ky/david-yarbrough-12672735>

Janice Yarbrough -- Georgia

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/thebrunswicknews/name/janice-yarbrough-obituary?id=60544290>

Donna Yarbrough -- Missouri

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/hannibal/name/donna-yarbrough-obituary?id=60540946>

Willie Yarbrough -- Oklahoma

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/willie-yarbrough-obituary?id=60572815#obituary>

Glenn Yarbrough -- Michigan

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/glenn-yarbrough-obituary?id=60537535>

John Yarbrough -- Louisiana

https://www.resthavenbatonrouge.com/obituaries/john-yarbrough?ttm_pid=210667317&ttm_affiliate=legacypro&ttm_affiliatetype=standard&ttm_campaign=legacy

Caden Yarbrough -- Mississippi

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/caden-yarbrough-obituary?id=60507224>

Peggy Yarbrough -- Arkansas

<https://rosewoodcremation.com/obituaries/peggy-yarbrough-2026>

Mary Yarbrough -- Mississippi

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/mary-yarbrough-obituary?id=60466454>

Johnny Yarbrough -- Tennessee

<https://www.dotsonfuneralhome.com/obituary/Johnny-Yarbrough>

Booker T. Yarbrough -- Ohio

<https://calhounfuneral.com/obituary/booker-t-yarbrough-jr/>

From the President . . . cont'd from page 1

. . . begin to reach out and proceed with the great work that the YNGHA has done over the past 50+ years. We are sorry for the inconvenience.

The YNGHA is also bringing back a digital newsletter to keep our members informed on the latest events and activities. Due to fiscal constraints, the newsletter will be delivered to your inboxes and posted on Facebook.

As we get past our current issues, YNGHA hopes to reinvigorate our membership and participation within this Association and bring purpose and value. I ask that all receiving this newsletter reach out to me at sayarbie@gmail.com to provide comments, ideas, or suggestions to improve YNGHA. I look forward to hearing from you as we move forward in 2026.

- Steve

Membership Dues

Annual membership dues are \$15 per year for individual or family memberships. Please submit to:

Don Yarbrough, Treasurer
927 Gailynn Marie Dr.
Mount Juliet, TN 37122-



What We Are Doing

Ryan Yarbrow



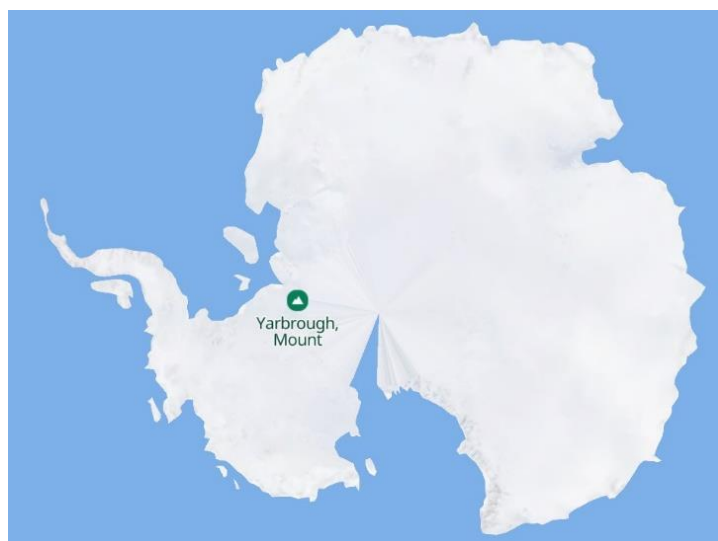
Yarbrows at the Rodeo

In January 2025, the Ozark Cutting Horse Association awarded championships to a father and son from Poplar Bluff, Missouri.

Ryan Yarbrow is the son of Don & Brenda Yarbrow of Poplar Bluff. He was awarded the \$35,000 Non-Pro Champion.

Cooper Yarbrow is the son of Ryan & Jane Yarbrow. He was awarded the Senior Youth Champion.

Cooper Yarbrow



Mount Yarbrow in Antarctica named for Leonard.

Newsletter Mailing List

In an effort to keep our mailing list up-to-date, please notify us when you receive this newsletter. Something as simple as "I got it," or "No longer interested," or a post on our Facebook page -- no long message necessary. Of course you can write as much as you like! We will remove any addresses that are not deliverable. Send to yngha82@gmail.com

If you know of someone who might be interested in this publication, please feel free to pass it on.

Thank You!!

Notes from the Editor – *Alice Y. Holtin*

It's great to get together with family, especially when you have news to share and projects to complete. We are the Yarbrough Family (no matter how you spell it), and we want to share and work together.

We're starting with a smaller newsletter, and plan to build back up to the full quarterly journal that we have had in the past. This is a learn-as-we-go effort, and I beg your patience.

The Board is working on planning some events for upcoming months, and some things for the *Newsletter* that we hope will be helpful for you.

Notice of online genealogy webinars.

A YNGHA conference in the not-too-distant future.

Family/ancestor stories.

This is your family newsletter. What would you like to see in it?

Please contact me at yngha82@gmail.com

Peter Yerburch

Ex officio member of the Board of YNGHA

Family Researcher

A notice for **The Rev Peter Charles Yerburch** was published in *The London Telegraph* on November 18, 2022.

Passed Away: October 24, 2022, peacefully at home.

Age: 91 years old (born September 14, 1931).

Family: Son of Rev Oswald Rochfort Yerburch and Cicely Joan Savile; brother to John and David.

Service: A funeral was held at **Salisbury Cathedral** per his request.

He was a retired clergyman and teacher who served as Chaplain at **Durlston Court School** for 22 years before retiring to Salisbury in 1993. He was also a dedicated family historian and the "British Family Authority" for the Yarbrough National Genealogical & Historical Association.

The Reverend Peter Charles Yerburch was a prolific researcher who dedicated decades to documenting the history of the Yerburch (and Yarbrough) family. He was considered the leading British authority for the Yarbrough National Genealogical & Historical Association (YNGHA).

Below is a list of his notable authored works and contributions:

Books and Major Compilations

* **Some More Notes on Our Family History** (1995): A self-published expansion on the genealogical work started by his grandfather, Rev. E.R. Yerburch.

* **A Chronology of Yarborough Data:** A massive digital and physical archive that organizes family records from the 11th century through the modern era.

* **The Yerburch Family History** (published as Volume 134 of the family archives): A comprehensive look at the family's Anglo-Saxon and Danish origins, specifically tracing the name back to the word eordburh (earthwork).

Notable Articles and Research Papers

Most of his shorter works were published in *The Yarbrough Family Quarterly* and *The Yarborough Family Magazine*. Key articles include:

* *"A Runaway Yerburch and His Bible"*: An account of a specific family branch's migration and the physical evidence left behind.

* *"Dr. Round and the Yerburch Ancestry"*: A scholarly critique and correction of earlier genealogical claims made by the historian Horace Round.

* *"Ancient Variant Yarborough Spellings"*: A linguistic study of how the name evolved from the 1000s to the present.

* *"Richard the Immigrant"*: Revolutionary research that corrected the identity of the wife of Richard Yarborough (the "Immigrant" to America), proving she was not Frances Proctor as previously believed.

Accessing His Work

Because Peter Yerburch was so central to the YNGHA, the association has archived his life's work. You can find many of his full-text articles and his biographical sketch through the Yarbrough Family Association Archives.

Most of his primary research binders and unpublished notes were kept at his home in Salisbury and have been preserved by his brothers, John and David, or donated to the association's central library.

Compiled by Hal Yarbrough, Jackson, TN

The YNGHA Newsletter

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The YNGHA Newsletter is published four times a year by ***The Yarbrough National Genealogical & Historical Association, Inc.***, (YNGHA) at Henderson, TN. Distribution is via the Internet. New issues may be viewed online and/or printed by visiting the website (when it is updated).

Contributed articles are welcomed and should be sent to the Editor, ***The YNGHA Newsletter***, PO Box 732, Henderson, TN 38340-0732. Either hard copy or digital is acceptable, and the submitter will be afforded an opportunity to review any editorial changes prior to publication.

The *TYN* is the interim successor of ***The Yarbrough Family Quarterly*** published by Mrs. Nelle Morris Jenkins. That was actually a newsletter, beginning in 1961 and continuing until her death in 1963. Charles David ("Texas Charlie") Yarborough began publishing in 1966 and continued until his death in 1985. Charles H. ("Tennessee Charlie") Yarbrough next served as editor and publisher of an interim newsletter from 1986 until 1990.

Publication of the ***Yarbrough Family Quarterly*** began in 1991 with Leonard Yarbrough as editor. Other editors were Karen Mazock, Kent Goble, and Gayle Ord. Leonard was the editor until his death in 2025.

Send changes and updates to membership names and addresses, email addresses, and postal (Zip) codes to the YNGHA treasurer, Donald Yarbrough, 927 Gailynn Marie Dr., Mount Juliet, TN 37122.

The ***YNGHA*** is a not-for-profit Virginia corporation engaged in Yarbrough family genealogical research and education, focusing on the lineages, deeds, and accomplishments of the extended Yarbrough and allied families.

