

# The Texas Herald

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An Expression for Good Life



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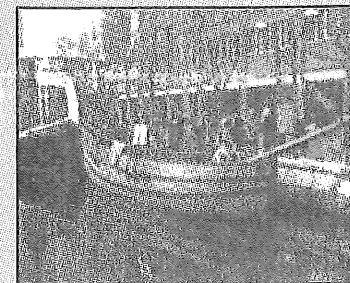
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America's 400th Anniversary

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# America's 400th Anniversary Jamestown 2007

## From the sacrifices of their forefathers, a Nation was born

America's 400th Anniversary was launched in May 2006 with an 80-day sail of the newly commissioned replica Godspeed, which brought a bit of American history to six major ports along the eastern seaboard. Ports of call included Alexandria, Virginia; Baltimore, Maryland; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; New York, New York; Boston, Massachusetts; and

Newport, Rhode Island.

More than 450,000 visitors joined the excitement of the "Landing Party," which featured tours of the 17th-century replica ship Godspeed, live musical performances, family entertainment, and historical and cultural displays highlighting the legacies of Jamestown and the growth of America.

pression and cultural exchange. The journey kicks off with a re-enactment of the settlers' first landing at Virginia Beach's Cape Henry then continues to Hampton, Newport News, Claremont/Surry, and Jamestown for Anniversary Weekend May 11-13, 2007.

All those who are aware of the history wants to be a part of the opening in April 2007 when major artifacts from collections around the world are placed on display, including a 15th-century copy of Magna Carta and a 16th-century African ivory carving. The exhibition will feature major artifacts from museums, libraries and private collections from more than 10 countries.

From April 27, 2007 to April 2008, there will be a special exhibition at Jamestown Settlement theatre and special exhibition building which places America's first permanent English colony in a global context, portraying a larger world of discovery, strife, expansion, innovation, artistic ex-

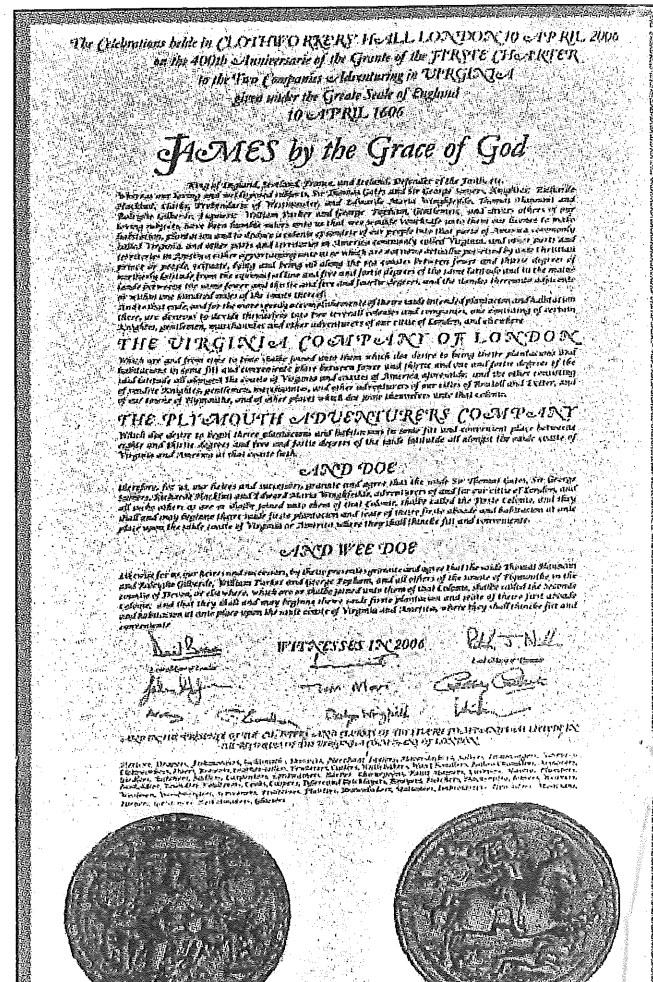
In 2007, America will commemorate the 400th Anniversary of the landing of the first settlers in 1607 at Jamestown, Virginia. The event will feature new mu-

In Richmond, Governor Timothy M. Kaine issued the following statement on the recent announcement from Buckingham Palace that Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, and His Royal Highness, Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, will visit Virginia May 3rd and 4th, 2007, in recognition of the 400th anniversary of Jamestown:

"On behalf of all Virginians, my family and I will be honored to host Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, in May.

"We are pleased Her Majesty has chosen to visit during this momentous year for Virginia. Her Majesty's first visit to the United States in 1957 coincided with the 350th anniversary of Jamestown, and for the Queen to spend two days in Virginia during her first visit to the United States in 16 years is extraordinary.

"This Royal visit speaks to the importance of Jamestown to both of our countries, reaffirms the strong, historic ties between our nations, and demonstrates a mutual commitment to reinforce these con-



The photo shows John Harding, Master of the Worshipful Company of Clothworkers, who were the chief backers of the old London Virginia Company in 1607, standing behind the Lord Mayor of London, Sir David Brewer (on the left of the picture) and the then Lord Mayor of

# Be A Part of History! Be A Part of America's 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

**"We Don't Want To Leave You Out"**

Over centuries of Jamestown's existence, a series of celebrations honoring this town as the birthplace of America have been held at the Colonial National Historical Park. These celebrations have become traditions which are now part of Jamestown's history.

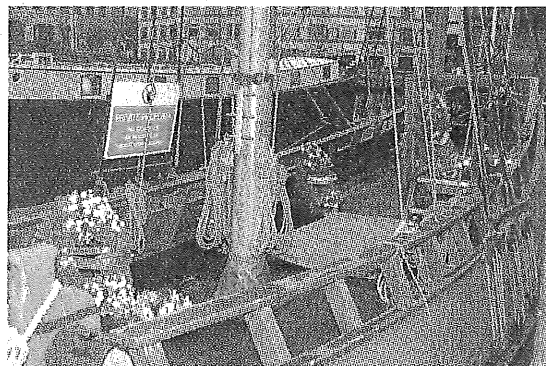
The Planning for the Jamestown

Quadricentennial for 2007 is currently underway and already at the national level. It will no doubt be another major celebration commemorating the settlement of Jamestown and the birth of English America.

While people across the world focus at Jamestown, Virginia in commemoration of America's 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Venita-Maria Benitez overwhelmingly celebrates her discovery that her family is a descendant, not only of Kings Henry II, John and Henry III, but also of Edward-Maria Wingfield, the only financial backer to set sail, founder of and who at age 57 was President at Jamestown in Virginia in the first four vital months from May 12<sup>th</sup> to September 10<sup>th</sup>, 1607.

After hearing from her sick uncle, Ralph E. Deane, that they are descendants of ancient royal relations from London, Venita-Maria Benitez conscientiously researched on the genealogy of her family. After almost two years of persistent research, she was able to document the legitimacy of her uncle's claim about their heritage.

The discovery of Venita-Maria Benitez about her legacy was just in time with the signing of the Virginia Charter in London, England on April 10, 2006, which was a



re-enactment of the signing of King James I, Royal Chapter, done in London 400 years ago. As confirmed descendants of Edward-Maria Wingfield, Venita-Maria Benitez and her sister Carmen-Lillian Benitez were invited to attend the signing of the Virginia Charter in London, England. The 2006 charter was signed by John Harding, Master of the Worshipful Company of Clothworkers, the Lord Mayor of London, Sir David Brewer and the then Lord Mayor of Plymouth, Patrick Nicholson

Part of the celebration in Danville, Pittsylvania was the planting of 400 trees and plants in their city. Ms. Venita-Maria Benitez conceptualized another plan. Inspired by her desire to relive and share the history of her ancestors from the United Kingdom and in Jamestown, VA, with Dallas and Fort Worth throughout Texas, she launched a special project linking 400 entities and individuals in the metroplex of Texas to be a part of history through The Texas Herald.

April, May and June, 2007 will be "Special Editions" featuring the commemoration of the "400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of America" piloted by our Special Project Manager, Venita-Maria Benitez. She will invite 400

## English Celebrations of the Departure of the Three Ships

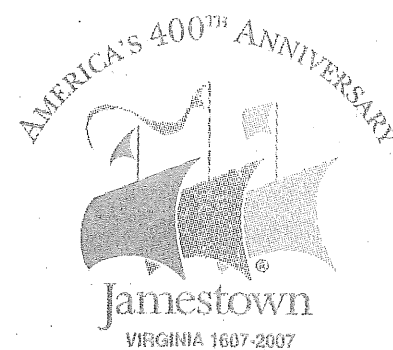


The fleet of three ships that arrived in Jamestown in May, 1607 departed from London on December 19, 1606. The 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Founding of Jamestown began, appropriately, with ceremonies in England to commemorate the departure of the three ships.

Representatives of The Jamestown Society participated in those ceremonies. Lieutenant-Governor Carter Furr and Attorney-General Ken Bass both laid wreaths at the Virginia Monument located in the docklands area of London. After the wreaths were laid at the monument, they were moved to the deck of the replica of the Discovery anchored outside the Docklands Museum.

That evening, the American participants joined their English colleagues in a magnificent dinner in the Great Hall of the

**Continued on page 6**



## What The Wingfield Family Crest Stands For

The Wingfield shield is described as Argent (silver), on a bend Gules (red) Cotised (narrow band on each side of, and parallel with) Sable (black), three sets of wings conjoined in lure Argent (silver).

The crest is the design above the shield. This can vary with family branch. Shown here is the high bonnet with wings situated on a torse or wreath (cord of six twists of alternate colors).

There is no record of explanation for the drops of blood on the bonnet and wing of the crest. It is assumed that the blood drops are in honor of Wingfield family members that died in service to their King.

Underneath is the motto on a banner "Posse Nolle Nobile", Latin for "To have the power without the wish is noble."

The bonnet and motto on this Coat of Arms is from the Tickencote branch. The shield is always the same for other branches.

The shield of arms accompanied by the crest, torse, motto and other supports is called an Achievement.



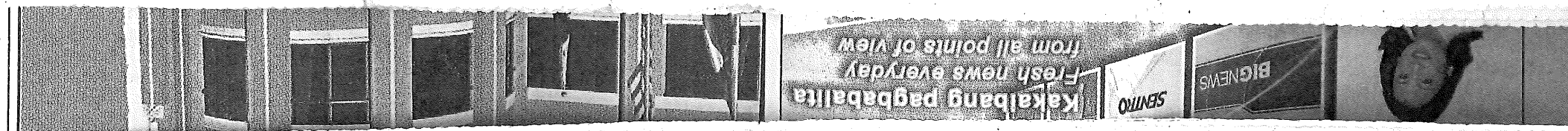
## Renewing the Charter

"They haven't set sail yet but descendants of 17th Century Virginia pioneers joined with British officials in early April to mark the 400th anniversary of the Virginia charter, which created the colony of Virginia. At the event at Clothworker's Hall in London, participants signed commemorative charters that bore the seal of James

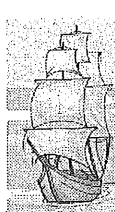


I. The Adventurers of Virginia displayed pieces of a New World tapestry, which depicts the lineage of the families who braved the Atlantic to settle the colony. The tapestry, which took 20 years to complete, consists of 24 panels totalling 267 feet in length. Tom Mor, the tapestry's designer, said one of his motivations was to remind people that it was the Adventurers, not the Pilgrims who established the first English colony in America. Mor claimed machinations by Mayflower descendants had tended to make the Jamestown settlement "forgotten or ignored."

Venita-Maria Benitez has her photo right in front of the historic tapestry taken during her visit to London on April 10, 2006.







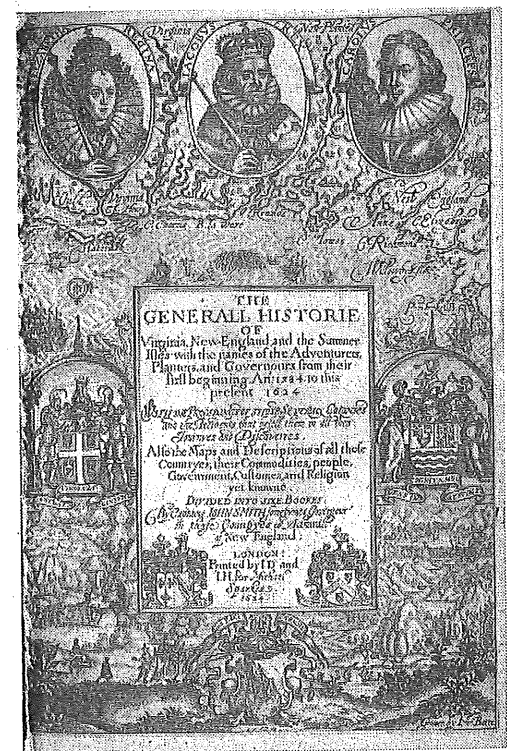
## Jamestown's Popular Characters First of Three Series

Sources:  
www.mayflowerHistory.com  
www.wikipedia.org

### John Smith (1580-1631)

**John Smith** (1580-1631) was an English soldier, sailor, and author. He is remembered for his role in establishing the first permanent English settlement in North America at Jamestown, Virginia, and his brief association with the Native American girl Pocahontas during an altercation with the Powhatan Confederacy, and her father, Chief Powhatan. He was a leader of the Virginia Colony (based at Jamestown) between 1607 and 1609, and led much exploration along the rivers of Virginia and the Chesapeake Bay.

After Smith returned to England due to an injury in 1609, his books stimulated new public interest and investments in the Virginia Company of London, proprietor of the Colony. In 1614, Smith returned to the New World in a voyage to coasts of Maine and Massachusetts Bay, an area which he named New England. On his second attempted voyage to New England, he was captured by French pirates, but escaped after weeks of captivity and made his way back to England, where he spent the rest of his life writing books.



"The Generall Historie of Virginia, New-England, and the Summer Isles", by Capt. John Smith

Often known as "Captain John Smith", he led an interesting life, and played a critical role in successfully interacting with the Native Americans. However, in his books, his boastful nature has made it difficult for historians to separate fact from fiction.

### John Smith's Letter to Queen Anne regarding Pocahontas

*In 1616, word came to Captain John Smith that Pocahontas was coming to visit England with her husband John Rolfe. Captain Smith was concerned that Pocahontas might not be given the reception he felt she deserved, so he wrote a letter Queen Anne to personally vouch for the integrity and faithfulness of Pocahontas. He reveals to the Queen that Pocahontas saved his life on several occasions, and saved the lives of many English at Jamestown. Although Smith humbles himself before the Queen in this letter (as would any English citizen), it is important to realize he was one of the most famous and influential explorers in England and what he said carried a lot of weight.*

*To the most high and virtuous princess, Queen Anne of Great Britain*

*Most admired Queen, The love I bear my God, my King and country, hath so oft emboldened me in the worst of extreme dangers, that now honesty doth constrain me to presume thus far beyond myself, to present your Majesty this short discourse: if ingratitude be a deadly poison to all honest virtues, I must be guilty of that crime if I should omit any means to be thankful.*

*So it is, that some ten years ago being in Virginia, and taken prisoner by the power of Powhatan their chief King, I received from this great Salvage exceeding great courtesy, especially from his son Nantaquaus, the most manliest, comeliest, boldest spirit, I ever saw in a Salvage, and his sister Pocahontas, the Kings most dear and well-beloved daughter, being but a child of twelve or thirteen years of age, whose compassionate pitiful heart, of my desperate estate, gave me much cause to respect her: I being the first Christian this proud King and his grim attendants ever saw: and thus enthralled in their barbarous power, I cannot say I felt the least occasion of want that was in the power of those my mortal foes to prevent, notwithstanding all their threats. After some six weeks fattening amongst those Salvage courtiers, at the minute of my execution, she hazarded the beating out of her own brains to save mine; and not only that, but so prevailed with her father, that*

*Notwithstanding all these passages, when inconstant fortune turned our peace to war, this tender virgin would still not spare to dare to visit us, and by her our jars have been oft appeased, and our wants still supplied; were it the policy of her father thus to employ her, or the ordinance of God thus to make her his instrument, or her extraordinary affection to our nation, I know not: but of this I am sure; when her father with the utmost of his policy and power, sought to surprise me, having but eighteen with me, the dark night could not affright her from coming through the irksome woods, and with watered eyes gave me intelligence, with her best advice to escape his fury; which had he known, he had surely slain her.*

*Jamestown with her wild train she as freely frequented, as her fathers habitation; and during the time of two or three years, she next under God, was still the instrument to preserve this colony from death, famine and utter confusion; which if in those times, had once been dissolved, Virginia might have lain as it was at our first arrival to this day. Since then, this business having*

*been turned and varied by many accidents from that I left it at: it is most certain, after a long and troublesome war after my departure, betwixt her father and our colony; all which time she was not heard of.*

*About two years after she herself was taken prisoner, being so detained near two years longer, the colony by that means was relieved, peace concluded; and at last rejecting her barbarous condition, she was married to an English Gentleman, with whom at this present she is in England; the first Christian ever of that Nation, the first Virginian ever spoke English, or had a child in marriage by an Englishman: a matter surely, if my meaning be truly considered and well understood, worthy a Princes understanding.*

*Thus, most gracious Lady, I have related to your Majesty, what at your best leisure our approved Histories will account you at large, and done in the time of your Majesty's life; and however this might be presented you from a more worthy pen, it cannot from a more honest heart, as yet I never begged anything of the state, or any: and it is my want of ability and her exceeding*

*desert; your birth, means, and authority; her birth, virtue, want and simplicity, doth make me thus bold, humbly to beseech your Majesty to take this knowledge of her, though it be from one so unworthy to be the reporter, as myself, her husbands estate not being able to make her fit to attend your Majesty. The most and least I can do, is to tell you this, because none so oft hath tried it as myself, and the rather being of so great a spirit, however her stature: if she should not be well received, seeing this Kingdom may rightly have a Kingdom by her means; her present love to us and Christianity might turn to such scorn and fury, as to divert all this good to the worst of evil; whereas finding so great a Queen should do her some honor more than she can imagine, for being so kind to your servants and subjects, would so ravish her with content, as endear her dearest blood to effect that, your Majesty and all the Kings honest subjects most earnestly desire.*

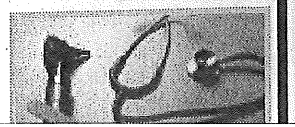
*And so I humbly kiss your gracious hands,*  
Captain John Smith, 1616

Welcome to the Tower of London



Nathaniel Kho, MD, PA

Welcomes You!



## Welcome to the Tower of London



One of the places that Venita-Maria Benitez visited in London during her trip last 2006 was the Tower of London.

The Tower of London is by far one of the most famous and well preserved historical buildings in the world. From its earliest structural beginnings by its founder William I of England better known as William the Conqueror 1066-87, the Great Tower or White Tower as it later came to be called was fast becoming the most talked-about building in England. The White Tower was also the most awe inspiring, and frightening structure to the Anglo-Saxon people who were trying to get used to the rule of their new Norman king, the destroyer of their own ruler, Harold II, at the in 1066. Within three months of his victory William the Conqueror had begun to build a castle on the north bank of the river Thames in London.

Beginning life as a simple timber and earth enclosure tucked in the south-east angle formed by the joining of the original east and south stone walls of the old Roman town of Londinium Augusta, the original structure was completed by the addition of a ditch and palisade along the north and west sides.

This enclosure then received a huge structure of stone which in time came to be called The Great Tower and eventually as it is known today The White Tower.

This formed the basis of a residential palace and fortress ideally suited for a king or queen and as history has shown, to its regal occupants the Tower of London became the perfect all purpose complex. Since the first foundations were laid more than 900 years ago the castle has been constantly improved and extended by the addition of other smaller towers, extra buildings, walls and walkways, gradually evolving into the splendid example of castle, fortress, prison, palace and finally museum that it proudly represents today.

*occasion of want that was in the power of those my mortal foes to prevent, notwithstanding all their threats. After some six weeks fattening amongst those Salvage courtiers, at the minute of my execution, she hazarded the beating out of her own brains to save mine; and not only that, but so prevailed with her father, that I was safely conducted to Jamestown: where I found about eight and thirty miserable poor and sick creatures, to keep possession of all those large territories of Virginia; such was the weakness of this poor commonwealth, as had the salvages not fed us, we directly had starved. And this relief, most gracious Queen, was commonly brought us by this Lady Pocahontas.*

Quotes:

**"We cannot direct the wind,  
but we can adjust the sails."**  
- Bertha Calloway

**The Texas Herald**



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## The Truth: As I Speak To You

26<sup>th</sup> great granddaughter to Henry II & descendant of Edward-Maria Wingfield

It was church day some-time in 2005. I was seated on the left wing side of Covenant Church in Carrollton, Texas listening to Prophet Kim Clements as he solemnly played the piano. As he got up, he prophesied that amidst us was someone who was going to be raised up into royalty. He coached us to look at the person to our left and to our right. The person might be the person sitting beside us. Everyone shouted with joy when Prophet Clements

spoke about the letter "E". That's when almost everybody in the entire church stood and broke into joyful applause except me. Just weeks before Prophet Kim visit Covenant, our Pastor Mike Hayes had announced that he and his wife Pastor Kathy researched their genealogy and thought it would be a great excitement for everyone to research their own heritage.

At that particular time, deregulation of energy in Texas was heavily pursued and for some reason I sensed that the excitement generated from numerous members who associated the letter "E" for ENERGY. I felt left out as I could not relate to what was happening. All of a sudden, I remembered my cousin Dr. James Hamilton who had completed our genealogy back in 1985. He had actually linked our family to the royal family as descendants. By the end of the service I had a warm feeling that the letter "E" stood for England, for me, and perhaps ENERGY for the other members. I felt that my journey to the past was about to begin.

In May, my Aunt Mattie passed away so our family flew to Washington DC to attend the funeral. I met with my Uncle Ralph Deane, who was my grandmother Nancy's youngest brother. Aunt Mattie was married to my Uncle Frank, Grandma Nancy mother's brother. So



1092) also known as Fulk the young, and after 1131 as Fulk of Jerusalem, King of Jerusalem, was Count of Anjou from 1109 to 1129. Fulk went on crusade in 1120, and became a close friend of the Knights Templar. After his return he began to subsidize the

Templars, and maintained two knights in the Holy Land for a year.

while I was meeting with Uncle Ralph, he asked me to complete our family's genealogy. I was given the task to pick up from where Dr. James Hamilton had left off five (5) generations leading to my children, niece and nephews. It was then when I realized the message relayed by Prophet Clement related to me.

I accepted the quest that led me straight to England to learn more of the 1606 King James Royal Chapter. I am the 26<sup>th</sup> great granddaughter to Henry II and other Kings and Queens of England and France, as well as a descendant of Edward-Maria Wingfield, the only financial backer to set sail with the other settlers to leave England in December 1606 to only arrive in 1607 to colonize Jamestown, Virginia. I am a proud descendant of the first elected president of the inception of America, the New World.

I also have discovered that Bartholomew Gosnold, Captain of the Godspeed and his brother Anthony Gosnold were my ancestors too. Their father and my grandfather happened to be brothers. Bartholomew Gosnold is more popular for discovering and naming Martha's Vineyard in 1602.

What really strikes and fascinates me the most is finding out that I, with all my ~~ancestors~~, am the great granddaughter to Kings (Henry II, son John, and his son Henry III) as well as King Fulk, King of Jerusalem 1131 to his death. Fulk V of Anjou (1089-

King Henry I of England arranged a marriage to Fulk's son Geoffrey of Anjou with his daughter Empress Matilda. The fifteen year old Geoffrey (Geoffrey V "Plantagenet" dynasty of English King) was knighted to Rouen by King Henry I. Henry II, King of England son of Count Geoffrey and Empress Matilda ruled as Count of Anjou, Duke of Normand and King of England 1154-1189. Henry II reign saw efficient consolidation. Henry II has acquired a reputation as one of England's greatest medieval kings and ranks as the first of the "Plantagenet" or Angevin

I can honestly say that I will never understand the secret place of what it means to survive it all when almost everything falls apart and you still stay the course regardless, by putting your faith in the journey and not in the tears because even soldiers need a crying place to rest. Through it all, I now have two mottos given to me in this lifetime. The first motto comes from the US Army in 1981 "Discipline Moral, Proficiency Epirit, BRAVO, BRAVO, BRAVO 1, 3, We Are The Best Amongst The Rest, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, ALL THE WAY drill sergeant, All The Way!!!" and the second is the Wingfield Family motto: "Posse Nolle Nobile", Latin for "To have the power without the wish is noble."