

Skilton Family Grand Numbers

The current Grand Number plan has been in use since 1964 when it replaced the original Grand Number plan used in the Cyclopedy and Supplement I. All genealogical data published since 1964 has used the new Grand Number notation.

As we connect with cousins outside of our familiar circle of relatives, a shorthand way of defining where we each fit into the family can be very helpful. The Grand Number assigned to each person met this need.

The Grand Number consisted of the Tine, the Generation, and a Sequential Number assigned by a family recordkeeper. If you don't know your Grand Number, you may be able to look it up. If you never had a Grand Number, it can not be "derived" from something else, and there is no one today assigning Grand Numbers.

However, your Short Grand Number can also quickly convey useful information that can help two people determine their relationship with each other, and it can be quickly and easily derived.

The Short Grand Number (SGN) consists of the first two parts of the Grand Number plus an optional suffix:

1. The Tine from which one is descended.
2. The number of generations back to Captain James Skilton.
3. A suffix which is a
 - a. lower case "s" for spouse/partner,
 - b. lower case "a" for adopted, or
 - c. lower case "p" for stepchild.

Because the Short Grand Number is made up of the first two parts of the Grand Number, it is a notation very familiar to many in the family, and anyone can easily derive their Short Grand Number. For example, I am descended from Samuel William Southmayd Skilton (Tine 7), and I am the 6th generation (F) counting Captain James as the 1st generation (A). Thus my Short Grand Number is 7F.

In a recent conversation with a cousin, we determined that his SGN is 2F. From his SGN, I immediately know several things:

- He is descended from Tine 2.
- He and I are the same number of generations down from Captain James.
- Since we are both generation F and we are not on the same Tine, I know we are 4th cousins.
- If we were on the same Tine it would take a little more research to define our relationship, but I know we are 3rd cousins or closer.

Everything one needs to determine their SGN is available on our website (www.skiltions.org).

The quickest way to determine your SGN is to use the Cyclopedy, the Supplement, and the Reunion Report Index for 1970 and earlier (all of which are available on www.skiltions.org). Search for a parent, grandparent, or great-grandparent, and once you find them, you should have enough information to determine your Tine and generation.

Tine Number Tine Name

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1 | ELIJAH STEELE SKILTON |
| 2 | AVERY JUDD SKILTON, M.D. |
| 3 | JULIUS JAMES GARDNER SKILTON |

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4	HENRY BENNETT SKILTON
5	JOHN CHESTER SKILTON
6	HANNAH MARIA SKILTON
7	SAMUEL WILLIAM SOUTHMAYD SKILTON
8	MELICENT PARTHENIA SKILTON
9	GEORGE FREDERICK SKILTON
10	MARY AUGUSTA SKILTON

Generation

Level	Relationship	Making it Personal
A	Captain James	My Great-Great-Great-Grandparents
B	Teeth Of The Rake	My Great-Great-Grandparents
C	1st Cousins	My Great-Grandparents
D	2nd Cousins	My Grandparents
E	3rd Cousins	My parents
F	4th Cousins	Me
G	5th Cousins	My kids
H	6th Cousins	My Grandkids
I	7th Cousins	My Great-Grandkids

Some history related to the Skilton Grand Numbers

The original Grand Number plan started with John Skilton, of Coventry, England, as number 1 and assigned subsequent numbers sequentially. The Grand Number plan adopted in 1964 shifted the “starting point” to Captain James Skilton in recognition that the Family Association focused on the descendants of Captain James Skilton rather than Dr. Henry Skilton.

The new Grand Number plan contains three parts plus an optional suffix:

1. The tooth of the rake (Tine) from which one is descended.
2. The number of generations down from Captain James (who is generation “A”).
3. A sequential number, assigned by Tine and starting with 1 for each generation.
4. A suffix which is a
 - a. lower case “s” for spouse/partner,
 - b. lower case “a” for adopted, or
 - c. lower case “p” for stepchild.

For example, my Grand Number according to the 1964 plan is 7F15 (I’m a descendant of Samuel William Southmayd Skilton [Tine 7], and I am part of generation #6 [designated by “F” which is the 6th letter of the alphabet]). I was the 15th person issued a Grand Number in the 6th generation of Tine 7.

At this time the 3rd part of the Grand Number is not being used, and none have been assigned since 2010.

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The following is from the 1964 Reunion Report.

REPORT OF THE STATISTICIAN

During the year I have received data on 90 births, 41 marriages and 20 deaths. Many of these occurred several years ago. In the interest of economy, only those events which took place fairly recently are included in the printed report—17 births, 8 marriages, and 4 deaths.

Some errors have crept into previous reports. If the data submitted today differ in any way from previous reports, it is a correction.

Should anyone discover an error in this year's report, please call it to my attention when discovered in order that corrections may be made on the records.

During the year, the Grand Number System has been overhauled and new data books have been prepared, one book for each of the nine children of Captain James and Chloe (Steele) Skilton with issue, with a page for each Skilton-related person.

The new Grand Number System is really quite simple:

The first code, a number, refers to the child of Captain James from whom descended. Thus a "1" signifies, a descendant of Elijah Steele Skilton; first child; a "9", a descendant of George Frederick Skilton, ninth child.

The second code, a letter, designates the generation. Captain James is A, the first generation; his children are B, the second generation, etc.

The third code in the person's own number. Each branch starts with "1" for the first child in each generation. Initially these numbers were assigned by priority; thereafter as data were received.

The spouse of a Skilton-related person has an "s" suffix; an adopted person is given the same number as if a natural heir but with an "a" suffix.

Thanks to the many relatives who have furnished me with data.

After the October mailing, future announcements will be sent only to members of THE FOUNDATION. If you are not a member, or if any member of your family is not a member, write me for membership cards.

June 13, 1964

George W. Skilton, Statistician

