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 \* THE BOONE SCOUT \*  
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WARM THANKS to those who not only welcomed the SCOUT on his first visit and invited him to return on successive trips, but introduced him to others interested. As a result twenty-six states, Canada and Alaska are represented on the membership list and the number of subscribers--libraries, organizations and non-descendants--is growing. This response is most heartening.

EVERYONE WHO HAS DONE or is doing research in Boone genealogy knows of "The Boone Family", compiled by Hazel A. (Mrs. James R.) Spraker, admittedly the most complete reference on the subject. Since its publication in 1922, Mrs. Spraker has continued her tireless inquiry, accumulating a mass of new material much of which has not been published from which she has generously offered to contribute an article for each issue of the SCOUT. Every reader will appreciate her fine cooperation and profit by it. With pride, we herewith present the first of the series.

THAT ELUSIVE SARAH! Several problems concerning the early history of the Boones in America remain unsolved. They are just as baffling, as interesting and as urgent as they have ever been, proven by the increasing attention being given them. Perhaps the most important is that involving Sarah, born 1691/2 the eldest daughter of George 3rd and Mary Maugridge Boone and the only one of their married children whose descendants have not been traced to the present day.

WHAT BECAME of Sarah? We know from the old James Boone Genealogy, our most authentic record of that period of family history, that Sarah came to America with her two eldest brothers a few years before her parents did; that she married and moved to Oley township in Philadelphia County some time before their arrival. We know that a marriage between a Jacob Stover (Stuber, Stowber or Stauffer) and Hannah Boone occurred on March 15, 1715 and is recorded in Philadelphia marriages (Pennsylvania Archives, Sec. Ser., V 8, pp. 32 and 256). Sarah must have died before her father George 3rd (d. July 27, 1744), as he left eight children and of his nine, all but Sarah are known to have outlived him.

ACCORDING TO PUBLIC RECORDS or to standard genealogical proof, nothing more is actually known of Sarah. If her husband is the one who later settled in Virginia, did Sarah accompany him there or did she die before he went south? Was she the mother of his two sons, Jacob Jr. and Abraham, who survived him? There is no documentary evidence that Jacob Stover of the Shenandoah Valley was Sarah Boone's husband, except that he sold land to one George Boone of Oley, Pennsylvania, which in itself is hardly proof that Jacob Stover and George Boone were brothers-in-law. It is circumstantial evidence but not proof, the aim of all serious research.

THE MAIN QUESTION--"Who were Sarah's children, if any"? If anyone has any actual proof of even one child of Sarah (Boone) Stover, will he please address the Editor of the BOONE SCOUT? As this mystery is of such intriguing interest and importance, would it not warrant engaging professional assistance to search every church, baptism and land record in Berks County through 1715-1744? Such concerted effort might find the facts about "that elusive Sarah"!

-- H.A.S.