



FAMILY ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

Fall 1990

Volume 15 #1

p. 1

FAMILY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: John H. Vawter, Rt. 6, Box 370, Nacogdoches, TX 75961
V.P.: Bishop Billy Mack Vawter, 3618 S.W. 39th, Oklahoma City, OK 73119
SECRETARY: Beth Melton, 1211 Casa Vale, Dallas, TX 75218-3141
TREASURER: Sue Vawter, Rt. 6, Box 370, Nacogdoches, TX 75961
ASSIST. TRES.: John H. Vawter
HISTORIAN/ARCHIVIST: Norma Vawter, 509 Oaklawn, Milan, TN 38358-9655
NEWS EDITOR: Esther M. Vawter, 1713 Merkley Ave. W. Sacramento, CA 95691-3201
ASSOCIATE EDITOR: Sally Brown, 3016 S. Madison, Tulsa, OK 74114
CIRCULATION EDITOR: Beth Sabel, 931 S. E. 33rd Ave., Portland, OR 97214-4279
EXCHANGE EDITOR: Bonita Welch, R. R. #1, Box 227, Scipio, IN 47273
MEMBERSHIP: Bobbie Meek, 20025 106th Dr., Sun City, AZ 85373-1010

REUNION MEMORIES

Thursday the Early Birds met in the hospitality room and were hosted by Bobbee & Donna Vawter of DE.

Friday 9:00 a.m. Officers meeting - It was decided that dues were to be from January to January for the sake of keeping the books. Those who pay at the reunion will be paying five months in advance, or getting five months free however you want to look at it.

It was decided to appoint a Membership person who would take charge of the address labels and keep track of those who are not paid up. A one year grace period will be given after you receive a statement that your membership dues are due. The treasurer, Sue Vawter, will go through the membership list and drop all those who have not paid their dues for more than one year.

There will be another printing of the Volume 1 & 2 of the VVV Vital Vittles (cookbook). You may order from Bonita Welch and the cost is \$7.00 each, which includes packaging and mailing. Bonita's address is above.

The VVVFA is working on Incorporation papers and looking into liability insurance.

10:00 a.m. Official opening of the 13th annual VVVFA by Vice President, John H. Vawter in the absence of President, Marvin Vawter. We were sorry to hear he was having eye surgery. We all wish him well.

After the ringing of the "cow bell" by John Vawter, Bobbee Vawter of DE led us in the pledge to the U.S. flag and Bishop Billy Mack Vawter gave the invocation. A letter from our President, Marvin Vawter was read by John Vawter. The minutes of the last reunion were read by secretary, Beth Melton of TX.

The speaker for the morning was Mr. Charles Kolbe of the Virginia State Archives and library. The various things we could check were:

Personal Property Taxes
Real Estate Taxes
Military
Public Service Claims
Civil War Material

Patents & Grants
Vital Statistics 1853-1898
Church records - Registrars
Northern Neck Surveys etc.
Tithable (Tax) list - white males 16 or older

Bruce Vawter of MO volunteered to host next years VVVFA Reunion to be held in St. Louis, MO. (Marvin had to drop his invitation to Kansas City, MO. because of health.)

Future reunions are tentatively --Hot Springs, AR and Oklahoma City, OK

Friday Afternoon

On your own with suggested tours within 18 blocks of the hotel:

1. Virginia State Archives and Library
2. Virginia Capitol Building
3. John Marshall Home
4. White House of the Confederacy
5. Confederate Museum

Friday Night - Buffet

Following dinner Jean Vawter Robinson of NC gave a talk about her trip to England and her visit to Trematon Castle and about a surprise Valletort. Jean's talk elsewhere in the newsletter.

Later a "sort of" story of the Southern Migration of VVV's by Wordna & Fred Wicker with Fred telling a number of his famous tales.

The evening meeting closed with the giving out of the door prizes. Glen, as usual brought one of his famous home-made clocks; there were several perpetual calendars, one of wood and one needlepoint and many other gifts.

The genealogy chart was put up on the conference room wall, with all VVV's signing in.

Saturday Morning

Two buses were loaded to visit the Vauter Church and grounds, where a lovely picnic was served to everyone.

This was followed by a visit to the Wheatland Plantation, Mrs. Garnet proving a beautiful hostess in a tour of her home.

From there we walked down to the wharf which is still in use by a tour stop on the Rappahannock River. It is the only original steamboat wharf remaining on the Rappahannock River.

Saturday Night

Banquet - Recognition of:

Youngest attender -Philip Scott Russell, son of Mike & Cindy Vawter Russell of Canton, IL

Oldest attender: John Taylor of Memphis, TN

Traveling the Farthest: Larry & Jacque Vaughters from Woodland, CA

According to the registration, Texas had top attendance with 18.

Other top states: IL with 15, MS with 13 and TN, OK tied with 12.

In all there were 138 present with 25 first timers. Twenty three states represented.

Report from the Nominating Committee composed of:

Bill Vawter of TX

Bobbi Meek of AZ

Norma Jean Vawter of TN

Billy Mack Vawter of OK

Sally Brown of OK

Election:

John H. Vawter - President

Bishop Billy Mack Vawter - Vice President

Secretary - Beth Melton

Treasurer - Sue Vawter

Historian/Archivist - Norma Jean Vawter

Newsletter Editor - Esther M. Vawter

Circulating Editor - Beth Sabel

Exchange Editor - Bonita Welch

Membership - Bobbi Meeks

From 6:00 p.m. through the evening everyone had their individual & family pictures taken to be put into a Memory Album. Taking of the pictures were free and if you wanted an album you could sign up for it. Those not attending may send a picture to be included to: (Cost of Album \$10.00)

1990 VVV Reunion

Peach State Enterprises

506 South 7th Street

Cordele, GA 31015

At the last reunion, Bill Vawter of Houston, TX was named "Outstanding Vawter" of the year. At this reunion a plaque was presented to Bill Vawter.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A Memorial Service was conducted by Wordna Wicker with her two granddaughters assisting by putting red and white carnations in vases as names were called. If when a name was read and you were related, you were requested to stand as remarks were given. Ellen Cummings, daughter of Wordna, sang a beautiful medley.

- 1 - DEBRA KAY MARTIN - Birmingham, AL, formerly of Martin, TN. Descendant of Thomas & Drucilla (Vawter) Martin. Kinswoman of Jimmy Corbitt.
- 2 - WALTER SPINK - Boring, OR. His wife is the former Eleanor Marie Vawter, sister of Beth Vawter Sabel, our Circulation Editor.
- 3 - MALCOLM GORDON VAUGHTERS, JR., Byhalia, MS. He was the nephew of Jimmy & Norma Vaughters of Memphis, TN
- 4 - PAUL E. VAWTER, Indianapolis, IN. He was a tool and die maker; a Navy veteran and a member of the Catholic Church. He leaves his wife, Rosalie; two sons Mark & Michael Vawter; and a daughter, Cheryl Sears.
- 5 - VIRGIL M. CLARKSON, Indianapolis, IN. He was a retired employee of Central Motor Parts and a WW II Army veteran. His wife and two infant children preceded him in death. He is survived by two nephews and four nieces, one of who is Bonita Welch, our Exchange Editor.
- 6 - THOMAS CLARKSON, Butlerville, IN. He was a retired poultry & egg dealer; avid sports fan. He is survived by his wife Ada; two daughters and three grandchildren, Uncle of Bonita Welch.
- 7 - M. DUANE VAWTER, Indianapolis, IN.; self-employed electronics tech.; and Army vet. Survived by his wife, Carol; sister, Diane Lawrence and two brothers, Nelson & Raymond Vawter.

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MEMORIAL SERVICE (cont.)

- 8 - B. VAN OSDOL-SCHNEIDER, Wichita, KS. She was a retired school teacher with majors in Journalism & English. She is survived by three sisters; two brothers; and one half-brother. She attended a number of our reunions, designed two mail out flyers about our reunions and did the art work for our two VVV Cookbooks.
- 9 - HUBERT B. VAWTER, Hot Springs, AR. He attended several of our reunions and his family helped to host our first reunion in AR.
- 10 - LAVADA VAWTER, Hot Springs, AR. Wife of Hubert B. Vawter died six months after death of her husband.
- 11 - PATSY VAWTER POOLE, Hot Springs, AR. She died one month ago and was the daughter of Hubert B. & Lavada Vawter.
- 12 - DR. GORDON FULLER VAWTER, MA. He was a pediatric pathologist and professor at Harvard Medical School. He and his wife attended the 1987 reunion in Columbus, IN. He is survived by his wife, a daughter Dorothy, two sons William & Thomas.
- 13 - VIVIAN ELIZABETH THOMPSON, Annapolis, MD. She was a former resident of North Vernon, IN and related to the Vawters of that area. Her line is found in Bicknell pp 219 & 236.
- 14 - WILLIAM MURRAY WICKER, Memphis, TN. He was a retired teacher and guidance counselor. He is survived by his wife May; mother, Ora Wicker of Tupelo, MB; bros. Ken & Fred and uncle Reece.
- 15 - HENRY ALEXANDER VAWTER, Winchester, VA. James Henry & Lillian Vawter attended reunion 10 years ago. His sister, Clara Vawter James was present at the 1990 reunion.
- 16 - LEWIS BEARDEN, Dawson Co, GA. He and his wife, the former Helen Vaughters attended the Georgia reunion. They will be remembered by those present as being the one who won the hand-made quilt.
- 17 - ROBERT BURROW VAWTER, Jackson, TN. He was a retired carpenter and leaves his wife Lillian: three daughters and two sons.
- 18 - NELL STITT WARREN, Denver, TN. Died 3 July 1990 at age 97. She was married to the late David L. Warren and was the daughter of the late Andrew C. & Nelle Corbitt Stitt, first cousin of Jim Corbitt. Line p 224 in Bicknell.
- 19 - WILLIS MAC VAWTER, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. He was the son of Charles Ralph & Elizabeth Goodwin Vawter. He is of the line of Glen Vawter of IL.
- 20 - PAUL EUGENE VAWTER, Indianapolis, IN. died 13 Oct. 1989. He is of the Scyler Beverly Vawter line. He was the brother of Maxine Vawter Joling in attendance at the reunion.
- 21 - PATRICIA ANN VAWTER, Indianapolis, IN. She was a sister of Paul Eugene Vawter and also of Maxine Vawter Joline.
- 22 - THEODORE ROOSEVELT VAWTER, Denver, CO. died 1 Aug. 1990 at age 86. He was an electrician by trade; son of Calvin & Josie Vawter. He is survived by his wife Lydia; two sons and one daughter; one sister, Shirley Vawter Byler. He was known officially to those of us in the VVVFA as Ted. He and his wife attended the first reunion in AR. and had his own reunion with his sister, Shirley for the first time in 25 years. Thereafter they both attended the VVVFA reunions until health prevented them in recent years. He was the uncle to Beth Melton and Beth Sabel.

The evening closed out with the drawing of the rest of the gifts. Total was 61 items.

SUNDAY

Caravan to service at the Vauter's Church 10:30 a.m. The "Love" offering to the church amounted to \$1,400. Communion was served using the original Silver chalice and plate.

Lunch was served by the church members, a delightful ending to the 1990 VVVFA reunion.

A TRIP TO TREMATON CASTLE, CORNWALL, ENGLAND

By Jean Vawter Robinson - May 1990

Six of us traveled for a week around Cornwall, England. It is the most Western county of England jutting out into the Atlantic. Our first two stops are the ones which may be of interest to you. In a rented mini-van we crossed on a ferry from Plymouth to Cornwall and the peninsula location of Mount Edgcombe Country House and Park. Touring the house I found paintings of WILLIAM HENRY VALLETORT (1832-1917), 4th Earl of Mount Edgcombe, father of Viscount Valletort; and Viscount Valletort (1865-1944) on his 21st birthday, later the 5th Earl of Mount Edgcombe. (I do not know when the prefix "de" was dropped from the name). These two Earls are part of our on-going relatives in England.

Our next stop was Trematon Castle, west from Plymouth across the River Tamar to Saltash and southwest of the little town of St. Stephens. We had help from three different people through narrow lanes and hedgerows and saw our first view of the castle across a pasture opening.

Your Vawter (Vauter, Vaughter(s)) ancestry in America stems from the early deValletorts who came from Normandy (northern France) with William, Duke of Normandy and conquered England at the Battle of Hastings in 1066; now known as the Norman Conquest. The Duke became William the Conqueror or William I of England.

William claimed the Monarchy of England as promised by Edward the Confessor years earlier. But on his death bed, January 5, 1066, Edward chose Harold Godwinson, 2nd son of Godwin, his powerful advisor. Harold was crowned the following day.

The Duke of Normandy in France sent several messages to Harold saying that he was coming within the year to take England for himself. He did so ten months later at the Battle of Hastings and Harold was killed. William promised land to all who fought with him. The largest grant was given to his half-brother, Robert of Mortain. In turn Robert assigned Trematon Castle and 33 other holdings to Reginald deValletort as chief tenant in 1068. This area included much of the counties of Cornwall and Devon and east across to Kent, much of southern England. England at that time was made up of small agricultural towns with London being the center of government. Reginald deValletort was responsible for protecting and developing this area all the rivers and harbors in between.

Trematon Castle was really a hill site location surrounded by a bailey wall of stone and wood. It was a Roman site of earlier centuries. Reginald deValletort built a high stone circular keep (a typical Norman Castle) to house the defenders, their armor, spears and all other defense weapons of the period. A stronger bailey wall was built. It is thought that the gatehouse with two iron gates to be raised and lowered (portcullises) was built in the mid-thirteenth century. An apartment on the 2nd and 3rd floors has been occupied in the past. The 3rd floor now serves as a dovecote.

A man living in a small cottage at the entrance of the castle driveway secured permission for the six of us to see the castle. The people who lease the manor house (built in 1807) were very gracious to let us walk around the property. Four

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of us climbed to the keep and went inside. There are no interior walls or roof remaining, only natural grasses. My husband climbed a ladder up the interior wall of the keep and took pictures of the view. It was a thrill for me to have the privilege of seeing it all.

Background history of Trematon Castle:

1. Roman lookout fortification until 462 AD
2. Norman Conquest, 1066
3. Robert of Mortain gave tenancy to Reginald deValletort, 1068
4. Edward III of England awarded Trematon Castle to his son Edward, the Black Prince in 1336 and established the Duchy of Cornwall.

This is the beginning of granting properties for the personal income of the crown prince. Today the same property holdings are the income of Charles, Prince of Wales who is also the Duke of Cornwall.

References;

1. Ordnance Survey- Pathfinder 1356 (map) Plymouth 45/55 Crown copyright 1988
2. 1066 The Year of the Conquest, David Howarth, The Viking Press, New York 1977
3. The Monarchs of England, Jean Morris. Charterhouse, New York 1975
4. Ancient Trematon, Its Ties to the Present, visited by Dorothy I. Vawter, Text by B. Van Osdol-Schneider, Jan. 1982, copy available from files of VVVFA.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE 1990-91

Betty Bert of GA

Duncan Brown of OK

Bill Vawter of TX

Bruce Vawter of MO

Wordna Wicker of MS

QUERY

From: Nancy Foley Johnson, 1097 Chinoe Road, Lexington, KY 40502-3009

Who was Margaret Vawter who married Robert Hill Sr.? Robert was b. 3-10-1750 Culpepper Co., VA., moved to KY 1789 and d. 7-28-1833 Bourbon Co. KY. He lived in later years in Bourbon Co., KY and evidently did not leave a will. He is a Revolutionary War soldier 1778 - discharged Aug. 1780 - pension application 1 April 1833. If anyone can help her, please fill me in also.

From Karen Bowman, 3900 W. 126th Street, Leawood, KS. 66209

I have the first three pages of "I Descend From Some Of the Planters of Old Rappahannock, Virginia" by W.T. Vawter which appeared in the Northeast Texas Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume V, June 1974, Number 2.

I would like to have the remaining pages as I would like to have the references for the information included in this article. I would like to know the documentation of the marriage of Thomas Page & Elizabeth Allen. If anyone has this documentation I would appreciate hearing from them.

I included excerpts of this article in issue #18 for Spring 1983 of the VVVFA newsletter. I had only the first three pages also. (Esther Vawter)

QUOTE - Every man is a bundle of his ancestors - Emerson

Fall 1990

These are the names of those on the register attending some or all of the 1990 VVFA Reunion at Richmond, Virginia. There was a total of 138 present from 23 states.

ARIZONA

Bobbi Meek

CALIFORNIA

Glenn & Marjorie Vawter
Garry & Glenda Vawter
Larry & Jacque Vaughters
Esther M. Vawter

DELAWARE

Robert & Donna Vawter
Raymond & Marlyn Holder
Robert & Mary Vawter
Their children, Robert,
Amanda & Jessie

WASHINGTON, D.C.

James G. & Elinor Vaughter

FLORIDA

David C. & Marie Vaughter
Becky Guinagh

GEORGIA

Charles & Betty Burt
Cheryl Glasgow
Bud & Vivian Stephens
Flora Vaughters Waters
Lula V. Thampson
John Carlson
Margie Provine

ILLINOIS

Paul A. & Connie Bugos, Tad Bugos
Edith & Harry L. Vawter
Donald & Alice Vawter
Candy Vawter Russell
Glen & May Vawter
Roger Vawter
Shirley Beasley, Mark
Wilma Schapmise

INDIANA

Bonita Welch

KENTUCKY

Mike & Michelle Alexander

MARYLAND

Mary G. Winningham

MICHIGAN

Robert & Margaret Vawter
Robert & Ila Vawter
Gary Vawter

MISSISSIPPI

Martha Hudson
Emery & Clarice Mayer
Fred & Wordna Wicker
Roger & Gayle Wicker
Karen Vaughters Tatum
Mary Reese
Ken & Norma Wicker
Randall E. & Blanche Murff

MISSOURI

Bruce & Linda Vawter

NEW YORK

A. Thomas & Cathryn Vauter

NORTH CAROLINA

Jean Vawter Robinson

OHIO

Harold & Venie Vawters

MEMBERSHIP DUE \$7.00 PER YEAR - DUE AND PAYABLE IN JANUARY TO: VVFA ASSOCIATION

Mail to: Sue Vawter, Rt. 6, Box 370, Nacogdoches, TX, 75961-9687

OKLAHOMA

Oscar & Erma Vawter, Jr.
Edna & Woodrow W. Bowers
Bill & Dorothy Vawter
Bill & Diane Loch
William D. & Diana Vawter
Duncan & Sally Brown

PENNSYLVANIA

Ann Raack Dome
Clara V. James

TENNESSEE

Norma Vaughters
James & Alliene Corbitt
Betty Callis
Lynn & Paul Weekley
John & Hazel Taylor
Robert M. & Norma Jean Vawter
Jim & Barbara V. De Fur

TEXAS

John H. & Sue Vawter
James E. & Mary Vawter
Juanita M. Baker
Bill & Sally Vawter
Bess Shoemaker
Beth & Joe Melton
Bill & Thelma Shattuck
Mildred Childers
Jo & Larry Lacy
Mace & Noel Moreland
Phil Vaughter

UTAH

Kenneth & Anna Marie Vawter

VIRGINIA

Ned & Ellen Cummings
Harry C. & Emily Dunlap
James H. Vawter, Jean, Ralph & Lisa

WISCONSIN

Wayne Vawter
Maxine Joling, Bill Cook, Larry Aue
& Dale Aue.

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