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Dues - \$7.00 per year

**1997 VVV FAMILY ASSOCIATION REUNION**

**31 JULY - 3 AUGUST**

**TOWNSEND, TENNESSEE**

**REUNION NEWS**

If you have not yet made reservations for the 1997 reunion of the VVV Family Association in Townsend, Tennessee, please do so today. Although the deadline was May 15, it is possible that rooms are still available. Call the Best Western Valley View Lodge and Convention Center at 423-448-2237 or 800-292-4844. If unable to get reservations there, ask them to recommend another hotel nearby. We want this to be a great reunion and would like to have a record number in attendance. Judy Blanks of Maryville, Tennessee, has been working on this since returning home from the 1996 reunion - let's not disappoint her.

For more information on the Best Western and the Townsend area, see the April 1997 VVV newsletter.

If you have names for the memorial service, please be sure to give them to Wordna Wicker to be included in the service on Saturday night.

Also, one last reminder: don't forget your door prizes!

**IF A RENEWAL FORM IS ENCLOSED, YOU NEED TO PAY DUES**

BIBLE AND MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS  
From *FAMILY PUZZLERS*  
Danielsville, Georgia

The following information was contributed to *Family Puzzlers* by Mrs. J.T. Wilson of Dawsonville, Georgia, and appeared in the 31 October 1974, No. 367 issue. Thanks to Wordna Wicker, who sent a copy for the VVV newsletter. We have changed the way dates were given to the preferred style for genealogy; everything else is as printed in *Family Puzzlers*.

Names and ages of Henry Vaughter's children

Dealy	8 Dec 1885
Deely	? Nov 1887 (d. 1964, invalid)
Mary	22 Jun 1888
Lovey	22 Feb 1892
Awthar	18 Nov 1893

Linzey Vaughters was married 14 May 1857 (to Kesiah Marinda Hicks in Lumpkin Co., Ga.)

Jane Vaughters, the wife of James Vaughters, was born 9 Mar 1794

Ages of their children

William (J)	24 Sep 1812	d. 2 Sep 1866
Hiram (S)	? Nov 1814	
Lucinda	13 May 1816	
Elizabeth	21 Feb 1818	
Linzey	28 Jun 1820	
Viny	13 Aug 1823	
Delila	26 Feb 1825	
Lydia	27 Apr 1827	
Jane	27 Apr 1829	
Eliza (A)	13 Apr 1831	

Jackson Bennett was born 24 Mar 1848 (son of Jane Vaughters)

Kisiah Marinda Hix was born 24 Oct 1835

Henry Vaughters b. 13 May 1864

Hiram Bennett Singleton Vaughter b. 20 Apr 1866

Names and ages of George and Epsy Vauahters (children)

George R.	29 May 1860	
Epsy Catherine	7 Aug 1861	married 1 Sep 1880
William Asker (Oscar)	6 Jul 1881	
Linzey	12 Oct 1883	
Homer C.	4 Apr 1885	
Anis Docia	1 Nov 1887	
Hiram Solomon	28 Jun 1891	
Erva M.C.	25 Sep 1892	
Pearlie Jane	25 Nov 1894	d. 18 Sep 1895
Lela	28 Nov 1895	
Coa	2 Mar 1898	

(Bible and Miscellaneous Records, con't.)

Information taken from marriage records of Lumpkin and Dawson Counties, application for 12 months support of widows, and tombstones.

Elizabeth m. 28 Dec 1846 Robert Stone, and William C. Anderson  
who d. 15 Apr 1868

Lydia m. Thomas Nix

Jane m. 5 Jan 1847 Robert Bennett, she d. 25 Jul 1912

Eliza m. 7 Feb 1857 Elijah Blackburn, who d. 2 Sep 1862 CSA, left  
3 children; she m. 2nd William Fouts

Anderson issue:

Tabbitha m. 4 Jul 1870 Rev. Wm. J. Hyde

Ireny d. 1922, m. 27 Jan 1866 James Lewis Green, son of a Union  
soldier

Mary Jane d. 5 Jan 1929, m. 19 Oct 1867 William Andrews

Sealy Caroline m. 23 Dec 1869 James Kelly

Jordan L. b. 12 Aug 1864, d. 17 Sep 1942, m. Elizabeth Kate Kelly

James Robert b. 16 Mar 1860, d. 28 Sep 1931, m. 6 Dec 1877 Sarah  
Francis Burt, m. 2nd Mamie Nelms

George (Bud) m. 26 Nov 1882 Emily Jane Cohlins (Collins)

Issue of Linzey and Marinda Vaughters

Eliza Catherine d. 27 Mar 1940, m. 27 Sep 1882 Rev. Greenberry Hall

Mary Elizabeth m. 6 Nov 1874, James Carlisle

Rev. George Robinson d. 30 Mar 1936, m. 4 Sep 1921 Epsey Bennett,

2nd to Minnie McClure, dau. of John B. and Sarah C. (Vaughn) McClure

Martha Jane b. 25 Jul 1861, d. 1 Apr 1961 m. Virgil Parks

Winna Juliann m. 16 Sep 1880 Alfred Waters and moved to Texas

Hiram Bennett Singleton

Lucas F. (Luke) m. 23 Apr 1899 Maude Dougherty

Ages of William Anderson's children

Tabbitha 18 Jan 1842

Ireny 18 Nov 1843

Mandy Eviry 14 Oct 1845

Mary Jane 5 Jun 1848

Eliza 1 Dec 1851

Sealy Caroline 11 Aug 1853

George (Wesley) Vaughters was born 14 Aug 1924

Ira (Sarah Rendy) Vaughters 14 Jul 1922

(Lloyd) Flem Vaughters was born 27 Apr 1924 (Flem said in 1926)

Names and ages of Linzey Vaughters children

Eliza Catharine 18 Feb 1858

Mary Elizabeth 14 Mar 1859

George Robeson 29 May 1860

Jane 25 Jul 1861

Winna Julian 12 Jan 1863

(Bible and Miscellaneous Records, con't.)

James Vaughters their father was deceased 2 May 1836  
Lucian Allien deceased 13 May 1849  
Hiram Vaughters 6 Jul 1853  
William Vaughters 2 Sep 1866  
Linzey Vaughters deceased 1 Oct 1866  
Jane Vaughters, the mother of the Vaughters family deceased 12 Jan 1884  
Hiram Bennett Singleton Bennett [this last name probably should be Vaughters] 22 Oct 1866  
Grandpa Bennett died ? Nov 1889  
Mrs. Sarah C. McClure d. 13 Aug 1831

#### QUERIES

From: Mary Frances Bridges, 529 Oriole Lane, Shreveport, LA 71105

Mary is seeking information and documentary sources about the ancestors of Elizabeth Vawter who married Thomas Newman 28 December 1747, probably in Essex/Old Rappahannock County, Virginia. They were the parents of Edmund Newman, a Revolutionary War soldier, who married Mary Conquest Wyatt. Edmund Newman died 11 August 1850 in Hancock County, Kentucky.

From:  
Robert Brimm, 1301 West Avenue, Normal IL 61761-3342 bbrimm@juno.com

Robert is the grandson of Oak Harris Vawter. He would like to have any information on this line of the family.

From: Wilmer McLaughlin, P.O. Box 337, Middlebury IN 46540-0337

Wilmer recently sent a letter to John Vawter of Elkhart, Indiana, seeking information on the Vawter family. The letter was forwarded to us by John.

Wilmer's grandmother was Dora Monger Fisher. Her brothers were in the lumber business in Elkhart, and one of them built the old Monger Building in that city.

Their mother was Margaret Vawter, born probably in Virginia in 1833. A genealogy, *The Mongers in Virginia*, gives a marriage bond dated December 1853, and an assurance dated January 1854, in which James Vawter and William Henry Monger state that Margaret was married to William Henry Monger. While Margaret's birthplace is not shown, the marriage documents were executed in Virginia, and Wilmer's mother, uncle and several aunts were born in Rockingham County, Virginia. The county seat of Rockingham is Harrisonburg.

Wilmer would like to have information with reference to Margaret or James Vawter.

BENNIE BEVERLY VAWTER

The January 1997 newsletter mentioned a Vawter Store that was in Cordell, Oklahoma, in 1920. Also given were the 1910 Oklahoma census listings for Ben B. and Edgar S. Vawter. Phyllis Vawter Reed of Fort Collins, Colorado, is the daughter of Ben B. Vawter. Phyllis compiled a history of her family, and in 1987 had it printed for the children and grandchildren of her parents. The following biography was written by Phyllis.

"Bennie Beverly Vawter, my father, was born August 21, 1874, in Monroe County, Kentucky. His twin sister, Minnie, died November 12, 1875. His father Josephus Riley Vawter, was a farmer and a stock grower; he died May 3, 1882, when Bennie B. was 8 years old. About 1885 Bennie's mother, Mary Josephine (Williams) Vawter, took her children to Texas. A few years after the death of Josephus Riley, Mary Josephine married again - a Mr. Frank Hoffman (Dock) who had three children at home at that time. They were Mollie (older than Bennie B.), and two sons, Aquilla and Willia. The four boys got along for awhile, then little troubles began. Aquilla began mistreating Edgar (Bennie's brother), so Bennie B. and Edgar S. left home. Bennie lived with his sister Addie (Nancy Adalaide) and her husband Pate (Peyton Lacy) Cook. Edgar S. lived with Mr. Marion Fitzgerald and his wife for 7 years. A year or two before marrying, Bennie bought a 39-acre farm.

"Valera Adelaide Crawford and Bennie Beverly Vawter were married December 25, 1895, at Alvarado, Johnson County, Texas. They lived on a farm near Burleson, Texas, until 1901. B.B. Vawter and E.S. Vawter had a store at Post Oak - they sold it and moved to Oklahoma. In Oklahoma B.B.V. bought an 80-acre claim for \$150 - the building on it was half-dug-out, about 4 feet deep. B.B.V. built sod walls 4 feet high and covered it with sod (and later a shingle roof). They lived in it for two years, then built a small two-room house, and used the lumber from the dugout to build a small barn (a corncrib and three stalls). They had horses and a cow. They worked this farm for 2 ½ years, then came a drouth. So they moved into town (Cordell) and Bennie worked in a large dry goods store. He took the exam for R.F.D. mail carrier (made the highest grade). He was the first rural mail carrier out of Cordell; his mail route was 26 miles long.

"In the fall of 1911 (?), Edgar S. moved to the San Luis Valley in Colorado with 6 or 8 members of the Church of Christ, who formed a colony. Edgar S. selected 160 acres of land, of which 80 acres were for Bennie B. He also bought a store building and built up a trade and rented a residence. After about 2 years, in 1913, Bennie B. finished closing out the store in Cordell and moved to the San Luis Valley where he joined Edgar S. in the mercantile business. However, there was not enough business for two families, so Bennie moved to Fowler, Colorado, in April 1914, where he purchased the grocery stock from Charles Roberts. He remained in business in Fowler until August 1945, when he retired."

WILL OF JOHN VAWTER  
CULPEPER COUNTY, VIRGINIA  
WILL BOOK A 1748-1770

Pages 65-67 Will Of John Vawter, dated 23 May 1748

John Vawter of Essex County.

All my personal estate as well in Orange as in Essex County be not appraised but sold at auction by my executors hereafter named and also my outstanding debts collected in out of which sums they pay all my just debts and the remainder to be distributed as follows (vizt) that one third part be my loving wife's Margaret Vawter, the rest to be equally divided amongst my children namely Winifred, Bartholomew, Richard, Margaret, Angus, and David Vawter.

What land I have I give as followeth

All the land I purchased of Young Hawkins I lend to my wife Margaret during her natural life with a piece of Kings land surveid by Major Robert Brook to be inclosed by a double pattant in all by estimation one hundred and fifty acres, she making no wast or sales of any of the appurtenances thereon and after her decease my will is that it be my son Bartholomew Vawter's, he paying therefore to my son Angus Vawter twenty pounds current money and to my son David Vawter fifty pounds current money.

To my daughter Winifred Vawter one hundred and thirty acres of land which was given me by my father in law David Noel.

To my daughter Margaret Rucker one hundred and fifty acres of land at the Great Mountains that which leys most convenient to her.

The remainder of the tract being five hundred acres be equally divided by an east and west line in two parts and I give my son Richard Vawter his choice of the said parts. The other part of the said tract I give to my son Angus Vawter.

To my son David Vawter three hundred and eight acres of land adjoining to the old [office?] tract in Orange County.

I constitute and appoint my loving wife Margaret and my son Bartholomew Vawter executrix and executor.

Wit:

Edward Vawter

Eliza. Vawter

Samuel Vawter

Jno. Vawter

16 Nov. 1752. Exhibited into Court by Margaret Vawter and Bartholomew Vawter the executors therein named, the said Bartholomew being heir at law to the decedent and declaring that he had no objections to make against it. Proved by the oaths of Edward Vawter and Elizabeth Vawter.

This will of John Vawter was contributed by Mary Winningham of Chevy Chase, Maryland, and is presented here as it appeared in the publication sent by Mary. Much discussion has been held on the word given in brackets as "office." A close examination of a photocopy of the handwritten will is inconclusive.

### CONGRATULATIONS

David Byler, son of Rev. Roger and Shirley Vawter Byler of Sweeny, Texas, graduated on 23 May 1997 from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri with a Master of Divinity degree. He was also awarded the Certificate of Vocation. This certificate only conferred on those who receive a positive vote from each faculty member. David's sister, VVV President Beth Melton, attended the graduation.

David and his wife, Carole, are now living in Paris, Tennessee, where he has been called to serve the congregation of Christ Lutheran Church. Paris is about 18 miles west of "Land Between the Lakes" and 100 miles south of Paducah, Kentucky. Ordination service was on July 13 at the church in Paris.

We have learned of the birth of Jesse Kellan Roberts to Jim and Korbi Roberts of Virginia Beach, Virginia. He was born 6 June 1996, so just celebrated his first birthday. His "big brother", Kelsy, was the youngest person in attendance at the 1995 reunion in Virginia. This newest Jesse in the family is a descendant of Jesse and Elizabeth Watts Vawter, pioneer Indiana settlers.

### IN REMEMBRANCE

Retha Crook Vaughters of Madison, Georgia, died 21 May 1997 in Grayson, Georgia. She was born 9 September 1917 in Jackson County, Georgia, the daughter of Samuel Butler and Ruchia Carrie Veal Anderson. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include her husband, Cleveland Vaughters; daughters, Vivien Brackett of Duluth, Georgia, Jean Brogdon of Grayson, and Avis Mati Anik of Buford, Georgia; a step-daughter, Patricia Herndon of Stone Mountain, Georgia; sons, Weldon Crook of Madison, and Ronald D. Crook of Monroe, Georgia; step-sons, Doug Vaughters of Winder, Georgia, and Jim Vaughters of Denver, Colorado; sisters, Leone Haulbrook and Lorene Scott, both of Maysville, Georgia; 19 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral service was held on 23 May at Madison Baptist Church and burial was at Centergrove Baptist Cemetery.

Retha's step-son, Jim Vaughters, is a past president of the VVV Family Association.

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Mamie L. Vaughter, 96, of Toledo, Ohio, died 26 March 1997 in Toledo. She was a member of Walls Memorial A.M.E. Church for over fifty years, being one of the founders.

Surviving are a daughter, Mary Ella Jordan; sister, Elizabeth Fletcher; grandchildren, Constance Woods Coleman and Greg Branch; 10 great-grandchildren and 14 great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral service was at St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church.

This obituary was sent to Charles Burt by someone who saw it in a Toledo newspaper, and efforts to get more information on Mamie L. Vaughter have not been successful. Can anyone help?

IN REMEMBRANCE

Edna Opal Wilson Reynolds, 84, of Butlerville, Indiana, died 12 June 1997 at Jennings Community Hospital in North Vernon, Indiana. She was born 3 October 1912 in Ripley County, Indiana, the daughter of Clarence Joshua and Nora Ellen O'Conner Wilson. On 12 May 1933, she married Walter E. Reynolds in Butlerville. He survives.

Edna was a homemaker and retired in 1972 as a PBX operator at Muscatatuck State Developmental Center in Butlerville. She was a 1933 graduate of Butlerville High School, and was a member of the Order of Eastern Star, Daughters of the American Revolution, Society of Indiana pioneers, and Friends of the Library. She was also a member of Butlerville United Methodist Church, where she had been church pianist and Sunday School teacher.

Surviving with her husband are four sons James W. Reynolds of Commiskey, Indiana, Hugh W. Reynolds of Veedersburg, Indiana, Miles E. Reynolds of St. Louis, Missouri, and Brian L. Reynolds of Greensburg, Indiana; two daughters Enid L. Henry of Madison, Indiana, and Ann L. Caslan of Muncie, Indiana; 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Several nephews and nieces survive, including Milton Pickett of Kokomo, Indiana.

She was preceded in death by five sisters, Bertha Pickett, Mabel Smith, Freda Johnson, Vera Wheatley, and Christal Rice; two brothers, Leslie Wilson and Omar Wilson; and a grandson, Ethan J. Reynolds.

Burial was at Hopewell Cemetery near Holton, Indiana.

Edna was a long-time member of the VVV Family Association and attended many reunions with her husband, Walter, and daughter, Ann Caslan. In 1982, she hosted the reunion at Clifty Falls State Park near Madison, Indiana. Edna and her sister, Vera Wheatley, were instrumental in having *The Vawter Family in America* reprinted in 1969. She was a descendant of Jesse and Elizabeth Watts Vawter, through their daughter, Frances, who married John Branham.

\* \* \* \* \*

Marjorie O. Vawter Mellon, 76, died 22 May 1997 in Glendale, California. She was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, the daughter of George and Marguerite Vawter. After her children were grown, she was in the women's clothing business.

Survivors include a daughter, Joyce Timmons of Manson, Washington; a son, Dr. Jay Mellon of New Orleans, Louisiana; a brother, Verne Vawter of Bonita, California; and cousins, Jean Vawter Robinson of Tryon, North Carolina, Ralphe Vawter of Gulf Breeze, Florida, and Claude Alexander Jr. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ed Mellon.

Marjorie's father, George Vawter, was the son of William Isaiah and Mary McIntyre Vawter who lived in Morgan County, Indiana. Willis Isaiah Vawter was the son of William C. and Sydney Willis Vawter.

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