



FAMILY ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

Fall 1985

Volume 10 #1

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MEMBER DUES: \$5.00 per year - payable in August - To: VVV Family Association

HIGHLIGHTS – MEMORIES - ANNOUNCEMENTS

The eighth VVVFA reunion is over leaving many wonderful memories. This reunion was dedicated to the memory of Mrs. Samuel Will who died 10 July 1985. She was the daughter of Grace Vawter Bicknell author of The Vawter Family in America.

Friday 10 a.m. - Business & Announcements

To open the first session of the reunion, Jonathan Vaughters, son of Donna & Jim Vaughters (former VVVFA president) rang the VVVFA "cow bell".

According to Grace Vawter Bicknell, the immigrant Vawter came to the U.S. around 1685. On that premise, this year we celebrate the three hundredth year anniversary of the Vawter family in the U.S.A.

The Rev. Donald Place, pastor of the VAUTER church gave the invocation.

Sidney Armstrong, Vice-mayor brought greetings from the mayor of Fredricksburg. He spoke of reading the story of the tent Chautauqua in the last newsletter. He had attended one and when the audience was questioned, there were around six who raised their hands indicating they had also seen one.

We set a record with VVV's coming from 24 states with 142 registered.

There were around 15 attending a VVVFA reunion for the first time.

The youngest in attendance was Frederick Cummings of NC age eight months.

The oldest member attending was Ora Wicker of TN who will be 85 in September. E.B. & Adele Vaughters of Seattle, WA traveled the greatest distance.

There were around 35 items brought for door prizes which displayed beautiful examples of VVVFA members handwork.

A card of sympathy was signed by VVVFA members and mailed to Mr. Samuel Will.

The copy machine rented by the VVVFA was put to good use throughout the reunion. We appreciated the help of Charles Rayson of DE for over seeing the photo copy work.

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The VVVFA wish to express a big "thank you" to B. Van Osdol-Schneider for all the art work in Volume 1 & 2 of our cookbook. We are sorry she was not able to attend this reunion because of ill health. A card signed by VVVFA members was mailed to her.

A VVV genealogy chart was put up across the wall with cards for each of the children of the immigrant. Each of these children had cards of their children. Then each of them had a list of their children with a blank paper attached at the bottom. Every VVV was asked to sign their name to the branch they belonged giving the number of which child.

Charles & Betty Burt of GA had a beautiful hand-made quilt on display. It was made of 76 blocks with names embroidered of those attending the last reunion. Work was done by Betty and her mother. (names of those who signed their name on paper at last reunion)

Volume II of the VVVFA Cookbook went on sale and can now be purchased for \$6.00 from Beth Sabel. See front page for address. There are new contributors and new receipts. Order enough to give one to your children for Christmas.

For those interested, you may purchase the VVVFA newsletter from issue #1 up until you began subscribing. Write Beth Sabel and give her the number of those you want and she will quote you a price.

An index has been printed for all the newsletters from issue #1. If there is a VVV name you want to look up in a newsletter check the index and it will give you the issue and page. The cost of the index is \$6.00. Order from Beth Sabel.

It was noted that the first VVV reunion started around 1975 when Paul Vaughter, Sr. then of TX, decided he would try and get all the VVV cousins together. The only ones he knew of at that time were those in TX & OK. When Bill & Sally Vawter of TX and Fred & Wordna Wicker of MS found out about it the word spread.

Shirley (Vawter) Byler had on display her family history book just back from the printer. After 30 years of research she has compiled information, including wills, of early Vawters and other early VA families as well as her mother's line. She had more material than she could use in one book, so this is volume I. The price is \$40.00 plus \$2.50 postage. You may order from her at: Rt. 1, Box 319, Sweeny, TX 77480.

Friday. 1 p.m.

For those interested a caravan of around ten cars drove to the town of Orange and visited the Orange County Historical Society. Jim Corbitt had made an appointment with Ann L. Miller, Certified Genealogical Record Searcher, to speak to the VVV's about the Vawter family, early Virginia county divisions, the migration of families etc. She has been helpful to Shirley Byler, Jim Corbitt and others who have written to her for information. Her address is Box 542, Madison, VA 22727.

Dinner Meeting

Up-date of a new Vawter book: Historian/Archivist, Jim Vaughters, announced that there is no plan now to print a new VVV book. There are additional VVV families which had not been discovered by Bicknell. To up-date her book and add these would take several volumes. At the suggestion of E.B. Vaughters of Seattle, WA we will include genealogies in the newsletters. These and other family genealogy books such as Shirley Byler's book, we hope, will fill this need.

A five page paper of VVV's in England as researched by James Lanier Vawter of E1 Campo, TX intitled "A Brief History of the Ancient Royal Manor of Sutton" was presented by Jim Vaughters. It started with the Norman invasion of 1066 and the Domesday book. In 1105 Sutton, Kings Tamerton, Maker, Royalty of Tamar - King Henry I gave to Roger de Valletort oart of honor of Trematon and on down to when Sir Hugh Pollard husband of

Elizabeth who inherited Sutton Vautard & Maker after the death of her grandfather, John Vautort, sold his lordship and fee (title) of Sutton in 1543. It was later sold to the city of Plymouth.

The evening ended with the drawing of 16 of the door prizes.

Saturday 9:30 a.m.

Some points of interest seen on bus tour of Fredricksburg;
St. George Episcopal Church where the father of Martha Washington is buried in churchyard. Masonic Lodge #4 in America which owns the minute-book & Bible on which George Washington took oath in becoming a member.
Place where George Washington threw coin across the Rappahannock River; Present day Boy Scouts have a contest to throw a coin across the river.
Home which George Washington purchased for his mother, Mary Washington.
Grave and Monument of Mary Washington
Monument to Tomas Jefferson's thesis on "Religious Freedom". An annual celebration there. Tour of campus of Mary Washington College.
Drive to "Elmwood" home of Mrs. Muscoe Garnett for a 1 o'clock luncheon.
Talk on VAUTER church by Rev. Fall and a visit to the VAUTER church-

Saturday Dinner

A soliloquy "Who Am I" by Roger Byler

Roll call of states having VVV's present. (missed a lot of you Texas VVV members, also those from Arizona and Louisiana)

Frank Robinson, reported for Ted Vawter chairman of nominating committee and other members: Vernon Vawter, Jim Corbitt, Betty Nash, and Charles Burt. It was moved, second and passed that the present slate of officers be re-elected for the next year. John H. Vawter of TX was elected assistant treasurer.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

As Wordna Wicker gave biographies of those who had died this past year her granddaughter, Rebecca, put a carnation for each in a vase. Her list as follows-

Constance Bicknell Will - last surviving daughter of Grace Vawter Bicknell.

Margaret Vawter Jeffress of Oklahoma City, a first cousin to Madge Elliott.

Robert Earl Jines of Pea Ridge, AR - married to Billie Allen who is one of the James Vawters descendants of GA.

James T. Guynes of El Paso, TX - wife of Frances Guynes who has attended the VVVFA reunions for a number of years.

Sam Daniel of Iuka, MS - husband of Lynn Reid Daniel who is a descendant of John Vawter, IV of old Tishomingo Co., MS.

Margaret Vawter Critten of West Plain, MO - she was sister of Bobbee Vawter, President and his brother Glenn Vawter of California.

George Clifford Weidner of Lexington, IL - was first cousin to Vice-president, Glen Vawter.

Mrs. Ella Warren Henslee of TN- cousin of Jim Corbitt.

Julia Igert Dyer of Paducah, KY - descends from line of Jesse, son of David.

Ike Lansdale of Fordyce, AR - was brother-in-law to Ora Wicker, Addie Edwards, and to Bill & Tom Wiley.

J. Vawter of Trenton, TN - uncle of Pete Vawter.

This was followed by The lords Prayer sung by Ellen Wicker Cummins.

Fred Wicker announced the formal invitation for the next VVVFA reunion to be in Tupelo, MS August 1-2-3. He handed out Chamber of Commerce packets to each one.

Sunday 11 a.m.

Worship service in the VAUTER church. Communion was served. The communion service brought over in the early 1700's now valued at \$40,000. The VVVFA presented the VAUTER church with their love gift of \$1,785.00.

NEW MEMBERS

Marvin & Patsy Harvey, Magnolia, MS 39652
Mary McDaniel - Indianapolis, IN 4332
Tillie Vawter - 1 Daisy St., Latham, NY 12110
Celeste Vawter Fonda - 30 Oliver St., Albany, NY 12205
Ann & Christopher Dome - 1103 Ashford Lane, West Chester, PA 19380

MEMORIAL

Boyd Robinson Vaughters - born Christmas Day 1913 Dawson County, died 3 June 1985. Parents Homer & Emma Wehunt Vaughters, married 24 Nov. 1935 to Wilma Viola Waters. Joined Bethel Baptist church August 1930, licensed to preach 14 April 1951. Called to pastor New Hope Baptist church and ordained to preach 20 Oct. 1956.

Born and lived in Dawson County, never lived over five miles from where he was born. Was a farmer and pastored churches in Dawson and Lumpkin Counties. Had three children, four grand-children and one g-grand-child.

Same kin to Charles Burt of GA and Jim Vaughters of CO.

GENEALOGY - DESCENDANTS OF WILLIAM & MARGARET (HENDERSON) VAWTER

I Bartholomew Vawter ca. 1660-1771

II Edward Vawter

III William Vawter b. 6 May. 1735, d. 6 Mar. 1815, m. Anne Ballard b. 23 Oct. 1733, d. 24 May 1814

William Vawter was one of the large land owners in Greenbrier county, and came from one of the oldest families in Essex county.

IV William Vawter, Jr. b. 26 May 1765, d. 15 Nov. 1822, m. 12 Feb. 1795

To Margaret Henderson b. 12 Feb. 1771 Greenbrier County, VA, d. 8 Sept. 1853.

Dau. of John Henderson & Anne Givens, g-dau, of James & Martha Henderson.

James born in 1708 in Scotland and died in 1784 in Virginia.

Children: 1. Elizabeth b. 28 Jan. 1798, m. 22 Feb. 1821 to Robert Young

2. John Henderson b. 23 Jan. 1800, d. 8 June 1877

m. (1) 22 Jan. 1828 To Adaline Dunlap who d. 8 Nov. 1828 at birth of first child who died a year later.

m. (2) 17 June 1833 To Clara S. Peck

Children: 1. John William b. 30 Sept. 1834, m. 25 Sept. 1866

To Elizabeth Dew Kean of VA.

Children: 1. John Alexander, d.s.

2. Nelson Carlyle m. Sarah Elizabeth Paxton

3. Clara McDonald, d.s.

4. William Alfred m. Mabel Clare Shorter

5. Charles Kean

6. Andrew Eliot d.s.

7. James Samuel m. Mary S. Pyle

8. Henry Alexander

2. Elizabeth Mary b, 2 Jan. 1836

3. Margaret Anne b. 1 July 1836 d.s. 1885.

4. Lewis Addison, M.D., b. 22 Oct. 1838, d. 4 Jan. 1900

m. 24 Apr. 1862 Mary Adair who died 16 Jan. 1867

m. (2) Emily H. Dameron

Children: 1. Mary Allen d.s.

2. John William (painter, illustrated J.W. Riley)

3. Clara Peck (author) d.s. (In Who's Who also #2)

4. Charles Elliot

5. James Elliott b. 1 Mar. 1840, d.s. 1862
 6. Charles Erastus b. 9 Jun. 1841 m. 24 July 1866 (In Who's Who books) To Virginia Longley of TN
 Children: 1. Mary Longley m. Harrison Robertson
 2. Josephine m. Stonewall Tompkins
 3. Charles Erastus, Jr.
 4. Leonora Leigh
 5. James Elliot
 6. Virginia Longley
 7. Edmund Longley
 7. Allen Henderson b. 8 Jan. 1843, d.s.
 8. Matilda Ellen b. 16 Mar. 1844, m. 29 May 1873
 To Wm Farnier
 Children: 1. Mamie
 2. Clara, m. Rev. O.W. Lusky
 9. Sara Josephine b- 10 July 1847, m. _____1867
 To Frank Peck Sweeny
 Children. Two daughters & three sons
 10. Joseph Snyder b. 17 July 1849, d.s. 1863
 11. Clara Virginia b. 23 Aug. 1853, m. 1870
 To Lewis Peck
 Children: two daughters & seven sons
 12. Henry Alexander b. 23 Apr. 1853, m. & Feb. 1885
 To Nettie Baber of W. VA
 Children: James Henry, George Elliot, Clara Elizabeth
 13. George W. b. 5 Apr. 1855, m, 29 Oct. 1879
 To Eliza L. Guinn
 Children: Joseph & Robert
 George lived at the old Vawter home in Monroe Co. that has been in the Vawter family for four generations.
3. Anne b..18 Mar. 1802, m. 19 July 1831 To Lorenza Dow Cook
 Children. One son - William Vawter Cook
 4. Jane-Jean-Jennie b. 14 June 1805, m. 31 Aug. 1826 To Andrew Shanklin
 Children: Son William Vawter Shanklin and other children.
 5. Mary or Polly b. 8 Sept. 1808, d. 23 Nov. 1887, m. 4 Aug. 1840
 To Moses D. Kerr
 Children. 1. Margaret Anne b. 23 Aug. 1841, d. 9 Oct. 1865, m. 16 Mar.1865
 To Ira D. Coty (no Heirs)
 2. James Vawter Kerr b. 19 June 1843, m. (1) 26 Nov. 1874
 To (1) Sarah A. Baker who died 31 Dec. 1876
 m. (2) Rosa B. Powell
 Children: Vida Anne, Clara Margaret, Merritt Vawter, Ramond Powell
 3. Elizabeth Jane b. 22 Mar. 1845, d. 16 Aug. 1877, m. 30 Aug. 1876
 To John G. Haas - left one son Herbert Haas
 4. William Elliot b. 3 May 1848, d.s. 12 Feb. 1868
 5. Clara Isabell b. 30 Oct. 1850, d. 16 Aug. 1887, m. 30 Aug. 1876
 To Milton Harshberber- left one son Ramond Harshberger
6. Elliott b. 9 Mar. 1812, m. 20 Nov. 1839 To Julia Pack
 Children: 1. Mary Jane
 2. Rebecca Anne m. Mar. 1867 To Rev. J. R. Van Horne
 3. Margaret Elizabeth
 4. Julia Ellen m. 31 Oct. 1867 To J. M. Johnson
 5. Cynthia Pack
 6. John Elliot
 7. William Robert
 8. Martha Jenny McLean
7. James b. 11 Aug.1814 m. (1) Jane Peck, (2) Eliza Lybreck, children: Two daughters

SOURCE: Taken from book Ancestry and Descendants of Lieut. John Henderson - compiled by Joseph Lyon Miller, M. D. sent to me by E. B. Vaughters of Seattle, WA.

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A number of VVVFA members descend from this family. Some are: James H. Vawter of VA, Betty Nash & daughter Betsy Miller, Elizabeth Hines Czompo, Virginia Groseclose, Clara Vawter James and Sally Brown, associate news editor.

Sally Brown, associate news editor contributed this item about the family.

HENDERSON, WEST VIRGINIA

This town was named for the family of William Vawter's wife who is an ancestor of a number of VVV members. Their lineage is Bartholomew, Edward, William, William. The second William, married Margaret Henderson on 12 Feb. 1795. Margaret's parents were John & Anne (Givens) Henderson. John was a respected citizen. He was an Indian fighter and he served in the battle of Point Pleasant in 1774. He was a Colonel in the Revolutionary War. He was one of the first justices in Greenbrier County VA. John Henderson's will was filed in Greenbrier County in 1787.

Point Pleasant is located on the Ohio River at the point where the Kanawha River joins the Ohio. HENDERSON is located immediately across the Kanawha from Point Pleasant. As early as 1791 some hearty folks settled in the place where HENDERSON is located today. These settlers were soon forced to seek refuge across the river within the walls of the fort at Point Pleasant because of frequent Indian raids.

John H. & Samuel Henderson, brothers of Margaret are listed as settlers in HENDERSON in 1795. The town of HENDERSON was not incorporated until 1879 even though people had lived there for almost 90 years. An interesting fact is that George Washington had been given one of the first land grants in this area in 1772. The grant was for 10,990 acres of land given by King George III of England.

The Kanawha River at this point is wide and swift. Today there is a big, high bridge across the river that connects HENDERSON with Point Pleasant but in 1795 crossing the river was possible only by boat and that was dangerous. The land on both sides of the Kanawha is mountainous and in 1774 it was heavily wooded clear up to the fort at Point Pleasant, which made the fort vulnerable to Indian attacks. At that time the surrounding area was populated with hostile Indians from the Shawnee, Wyandotte, and Mingoe tribes who did not want the white man in their territory.

In the spring of 1774 a general Indian war (called Dunmore's War) broke out along that Western frontier. The bloody battle at Point Pleasant was the decisive battle that ended the war. The Virginia Militia lost 150 of 700 troops including their respected commander, Col Charles Lewis. The Indian losses were heavier than the Virginians, but exactly how many is not known because the Indians quickly buried their dead in the river weighted down with big rocks so that the Virginians would not know the extent of their losses.

The Hendersons were a capable, prosperous family who participated actively in the history of the area.

* * * * *

Beth Sabel is starting to collect all the VVV names and addresses she can find to make up a new VVV Directory. So, send her the names and addresses of all your cousins and other relatives and all those you can find in your telephone directory. It would be appreciated if you would check out phone directories of other cities in your area, but be sure the directory is up to date.

The present address of Douglas & Phyllis Vawter, parents of Doug Jr. & Pamela is needed by Beth Sabel who mails out the newsletters.

Fall 1985

The names of those on the register attending the VVVFA Reunion- 1985 - Virginia

The top states in attendance were: Texas, Tennessee & Mississippi as they were last year and in the same order,

ARKANSAS
Vernon & Trudy Vawter
Hubert Vawter
Lester Vawter
Alma Allen

CALIFORNIA
Esther Vawter

COLORADO
Jim & Donna Vaughters
Jonathan Vaughters
Ted & Lydia Vawter

DELAWARE
Robert & Donna Vawter
Charles & Rosemary Raysor, Jr.
Samantha & Charles Raysor, III
Robert Vawter

FLORIDA
Louise Lee

GEORGIA
Charles & Betty Burt
Chuck Burt
Alice V. Disharoon
Addie Edwards
Anne V. Stovall

ILLINOIS
Chadwick Trujillo
Glen & May Vawter
Jerry & Shirley Beasley
Roger & Margie Vawter
David Lee

INDIANA
Patricia Ann Vawter
Josephine (Vawter) Parker
Blanche Vawter
Selma (Vawter) Glassing
Scott Woodworth
Bonita Welch
Alan Welch
Ann Caslau
Mary McDaniel
Walter & Edna Reynolds

IOWA
Sara (Sally) Hocknumuth
Susan Curtis
Elsie Trittip

KANSAS
Madge Elliott
Bernice & Alva Poland

MISSISSIPPI
Marvin & Patsy Harvey
James & Norma Wicker
Ora Wicker
Mary W. Reese
Wordna & Fred Wicker
Roger & Gayle Wicker
Margaret & Caroline Wicker

MICHIGAN
Gary & Penny Vawter

MEMBERSHIP DUES \$5.00 PER YEAR – DUE AND PAYABLE IN AUGUST TO: VVVFA ASSOCIATION. Mail to Hazel McCandless, Box 366 Cushing, TX 75760

NAME _____ NEW _____ RENEWAL _____

STREET ADDRESS _____ DATE _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

(give your VVV line on back) PHONE _____

Fall 1985

MISSOURI

Linda & Bruce Vawter
Marvin Vawter
Dorothy Ford
Wanda Gould

NEW YORK

Tillie Vawter
Celeste (Vawter) Fonda

NORTH CAROLINA

Sally Poland
Ellen Wicker Cummings
Rebecca & Fredrick Cummings

OHIO

Willard & Lucille Keir

OKLAHOMA

Sally & Duncan Brown
Carolyn & Paul Vaughter

OREGON

Beth Sabel

PENNSYLVANIA

Christopher & Anne Dome
Elizabeth Dome
Clara Vawter James

TENNESSEE

Sandra & Frank Robinson
John Mark & William Robinson
Mary Vawter
Stan Callis
Pete & Norma Vawter
Jim & Barbara DeFur & Emily
Norma Vaughter
Hazel & John Taylor
Grace Upshaw
Jim Corbitt
Doug & Betty Hicks

TEXAS

Frances Guynes
Beth & Joe Melton
Betsy Miller
Mack & Betty Nash
Bill & Sally Vawter
Hazel McCandless
Louise Vanover
John H. & Sue Vawter
Juanita Baker
Shirley & Roger Byler
David, Jean, Danny, Mathew Byler
Phil Vaughter

VIRGINIA

Harry & Emily Dunlap
John & Dorothy Martin
Virginia May Scholz
Charlotte Scholz
Tracy & Herb Scholz

WASHINGTON

E.B. & Adele Vaughters

WEST VIRGINIA

Charles & Elizabeth Czompo

WISCONSIN

Evert & Maxine Joling
Wayne & Carole Vawter

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