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FAMILY ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

Fall 1988

Volume 13 #1

FAMILY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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HIGHLIGHTS-MEMORIES-ANNOUNCEMENTS

The eleventh annual VVVFA reunion is over as is the shock of all those Vaughters in Georgia. We want to extend a big welcome to all of them to join our family association and be a special part of the VVV's across the United States. Charles Burt, our host, did a great job on including all his cousins. Altogether there were 64 from Georgia who attended.

In attendance Texas came in second and Tennessee beat Mississippi by one for third place. This year was a record for California with nine from that state. We missed some of our regular attenders very much and we send you our love.

There were around 50 some early birds who met to visit, look at John Taylor's slide presentation of his visit to the Valletort Castle in England, a few shots in France and his travels. There was browsing among the picture albums, binder of all the previous VVVFA newsletters, newspaper clippings. Bonita Welch brought 12 books of poems by James Whitcomb Riley and illustrated by Will Vawter. She sold all but one. Over 30 gifts, most handmade, were brought in for the drawing of door prizes Friday and Saturday nights.

Friday 10 a.m.

This began the official opening of our reunion. Jonathan Vaughters of CO was not there to ring our cow bell. He was in PA winning a third place bronze medal in a national bicycle race. He is the 15 year old son of Jim Vaughters, one of our former presidents.

Invocation was given by Rev. John H. Vawter of TX. Reports were given by the officers. The main speaker was unable to attend. Members of the association spoke.

Friday 1:00 & 1:30

At 1:00 a caravan of nine cars left for Elberton, GA, the Granite Capital of the U.S. The 160 mile round trip was spiced by frequent downpours of rain. The rain was a blessing to the area because of the drought, but it made driving hazardous.

All nine cars arrived safely at the lovely old Harmony Baptist Church and were warmly welcomed by the Rev. Don Weber.

A brief history of the church was given by Doug Vaughters and some genealogy of

the Vaughters by John Carlson, Jr. By then the rain had stopped and everyone went out to the cemetery next to the church to see the Vaughters' graves. John Vaughters (1750-1817) who married Joannah Vernon is buried there. He was one of the first settlers in the area and a cotton farmer.

Also buried there are:

A. Tate Vaughter 1902 – 1969 and his wife Gussie M. 1910-
Emmett A. Vaughter 1854 – 1934 and his wife Addi 1875 – 1928
William Howard Vaughter 1896 – 1963
J. Benson Vaughter 1845 – 1912
Mary Beulah Vaughter 1874 – 1959
Francis H. Vaughter 1903 – 1976
Lettie Vaughter, wife of E. H. Sanders 1841 – 1907
Frances Vaughter Sanders 1850 – 1945
Richard B. Vaughter 1855 – 1935
Thomas F. Vaughter 1852 – 1934

While we were walking around the cemetery, Swift and Julian Vaughter joined us. These two men live on the 600 acre farm which has been in their family since 1805. The original house on this land is where they live today. The family cemetery is on the farm also. Swift and Julian are 88 years old and 82 years old respectively, even though they both look much younger. Their father was a soldier in the Civil War. He had joined the Confederate Army when he was sixteen years of age. There is an old country store on the road near the house which the brothers keep open for the sake of tradition because it has been there and run by the family for more than 100 years.

In the family cemetery on their land are buried:

Richard Vawter died 1850 – his brother,
Linsey Vaughter 1808 – 1863 - son
Jesse - 1848 – 1849
Mary McMullen Hull Vaughter 1812 – 1890

Bill Vawter of Houston, Texas, was especially pleased to visit the Harmony Baptist Church because his great, great grandparents, Richard Vawter & Cynthia McGuire Vawter were married in the church on November 11, 1806.

This trip was significant because it added a wealth of information to the VVVF Association records about the VAUGHTER(S) branch of the family. Charles Burt told us that this area had the largest concentration of Vaughter(s) than any place in the U.S. The reason for the spelling change is just speculation, but the change of spelling took place sometime before the 1850 census.

The above report was written by Sally Brown, Associate Editor and edited by Esther M. Vawter, Newsletter Editor.

The 1:30 caravan of two cars made a trip to Dawson County, Ga. to visit the Lumpkin Methodist Campground with a scenic drive along Etowah River Road. They made stops at the Palmour homes and the Green Russell Family homes. Green Russell is reported to have been one of the first settlers of Denver, CO. He and some of his brothers were in on all of the major gold strikes in the U.S.

Charles Burt lead this caravan. He is a walking Chamber of Commerce having knowledge of facts and stories of this whole area. The association appreciates the effort Charles made in planning these tours for those interested in genealogy and those interested in the scenic area and homes.

Friday 7:00 p.m.

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The speaker of the evening was Edith Goodson of California. Her title was "You Can Work on Your Genealogy Wherever You Are". Her husband was a civilian employee of the government and has worked in the Asian area and Germany. She visited the Mormon Library in Germany and through them added to her family history. Her talk included stories of her various experiences and feelings in researching her tree. She closed with a poem titled Why Should We Care About Genealogy.

This was followed by stories of early life, Civil War and one room school houses. Blanche Murff spoke of a book in her possession "Prison Life in Dixie" by John Beverly Vawter (s/o Pascal Vawter of the Philemon line). It is a living account of the battle of Atlanta and experiences as a prisoner at Andersonville, GA. Jim Corbitt is taking the book home with him to get prices on reproducing copies. The evening ended with the drawing of around 17 door prizes.

Saturday 9:00 a.m.

Two Greyhound buses left for the tour to Dahlonega, GA in Lumpkin County to visit the Gold Museum. It is a state historic site and is housed in a refurbished county courthouse. A 30 minute slide presentation showed the history of gold mining by stories from residents. There were glass cases telling of the history of gold mining in the area.

The Gold Museum was centered in town with streets going around it. There were shops of craft, china and jewelry located around the square. One bus load at a time visited the Gold Museum while the other bus load browsed in the shops.

Going and coming back points of interest were pointed out. On one section of the road Charles Burt pointed out the houses on both sides were lived in by Vaughters. Saw the North Georgia College Campus and stopped to view the Amocalola Falls, one of the highest waterfalls in the southeastern United States, cascading 729 feet located 12 miles from Dawsonville, GA. A picnic lunch was served in the Dawson County Park.

On the way back to Gainesville we stopped at the Bethel Baptist Church, also known as the Shoalls Creek Church, to stop at the cemetery. The donation project for this reunion amounted to \$313.13 for the Bethel Church cemetery Fund. In the cemetery were found the graves of

Homer C. Vaughters, b. & Apr. 1885, d. 11 Dec. 1944 and wife Emma W. b. 17 Apr. 1888, d. 4 June 1969

Linzey Vaughters, b. 12 Oct. 1883, d. 12 June 1960

Tomie A., b. 20 Sept. 1887, d. 21 Dec. 1965

Rev. George R. Vaughters, b. 29 May 1860, d. 30 Mar. 1936

Wife #1 - Epsy, b. 7 Aug. 1861, d. 12 July 1916

Wife #2 - Minnie Mae, b. 15 June 1888, d. 6 June 1952

Jane Vaughters, b. 9 Mar. 1774, d. 12 Jan. 1884 "A Model Christian mother" known as the Mother of the Vaughters family.

Marinda K. Vaughters, b. 24 Oct. 1835, d. 20 July 1926 "Mother was the charm of our home."

Saturday 6:30 p.m.

A gathering of the VVV's for the banquet in their best bib and tucker. The oldest (84) member present was Ted Vawter of Colorado - the youngest was Justin Disharoon age 9 mo., parents Curtis & Heather from Dawsonville & grandparents, Alice & Hoyt Disharoon.

The VVV coming the longest distance was Beth Sabel from Portland, Oregon 2,700. The roll call of states showed VVV's from 15 States with 144 present; 59 of them first timers.

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Election

The new president: Marvin D. Vawter of MO

The new Vice-pres: John H. Vawter of TX

New Assist. tres.: Sue Vawter of TX

The remaining officers are the same.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

The 23rd Psalm and the poem "In Parting From Loved Ones" was read. White carnations were placed in a vase for each person.

1. Lester Edward Vawter of Blanchard, Iowa passed away 19 Oct. 1987 at age 83. He was the s/o George Granville & Nancy Beal Vawter and the grandson of Robert Vawter p. 402 Bicknell.
2. Walter Bachmann Vawter, Acadia, CA. passed away 4 Jan. 1988 at the age of 87. He was the s/o Alfred Thomas Vawter & Minnie Leotha Vawter. Alfred was the s/o John Watts & Louesa Bachmann Vawter - Minnie Vawter was the d/o Jesse Holman & Martha Pyle Vawter, p. 161, 163 Bicknell.
3. The Rev. Raymond V. Waters, Dawsonville, GA passed away 9 Jan. 1988 at age 66. He was a lifetime resident of Dawson County and a licensed Baptist minister.
4. Lucille Lula Cupp, Jay, OK passed away 12 January 1988 at age 69, sister of Edith Goodson.
5. Betty Ferguson Vawter passed away 25 Jan. 1988. She was born in Jeffersonville, IN. She is survived by her husband, Paul Vawter Sr., and a son Jay of Princeton, NJ. Paul Sr. is moving from Vernon Hills, IL to Princeton, NJ.
6. Rose Whitley Vawter passed away 16 Feb. 1988 in Brandon, FA, She was the d/o Wm A. & Cosby Harrison Whitley. She was preceded in death by her husband, Henry A. Vawter.
7. Carl Willis Cupp passed away 28 March 1988 in Tulsa, OK at age 76. He was the s/o Luther & Florence Cupp. He was born 4 June 1911 in Davenport, OK and was the brother of Edith Goodson, and of Lucille Lula Cupp above.
8. Willie J. Fields passed away 1 April 1988 in Dawsonville, GA. He was the husband of Tomie Vaughters and was buried in the Bethel Baptist Church cemetery.
9. Ethel Carson passed away 5 April 1988 in Seymoor, IN at age 93. She was born 20 Sept. 1894 in Jennings Co. IN. She was the dau. of Edwin Carson & Eva Jennie Holsclaw p. 139 Bicknell.
10. Margaret E. Taylor passed away 11 April 1988 in Anderson, IN. She was born 27 Nov. 1908 and was the aunt of Bonita Welch.
11. Alfred Buell Vawter passed away 14 April 1988 in the Veterans Home in Yountville, CA. He was born 30 June 1892.
A brother Vernon Monroe Vawter died in Tacoma, WA 27 June 1983. He was born 13 July 1895, p 160. Bicknell.
Their sister is Helen K. Vawter of Tacoma and a member of the VVVFA.
12. James C. Nixon passed away 27 April 1988 at W. Helena, AK at age 74. He descends from John Vawter IV of Tishomingo Co., MS. His family was part of the hosts of the 1986 VVV Reunion in Tupelo, MS. His mother, Mrs. Willard Nixon was the oldest member present at the Mississippi reunion.
13. Steven M. Anderson Schapure passed away 7 May 1988 at age 3 months & 12 days in Bloomington, IL, s/o Michael Schapure & grandson of Wilma Schapure present at reunion.

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The remaining door prizes were given out. The VVVFA President, M. Glenn Vawter closed out the year with this message: "I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Family Association for letting me serve them as President for the past two years. It was an honor and a privilege that I will always look back on with fond memories. I want to thank all of the officers and committees for assisting me with a special thanks to Bonita Welch (87 reunion) and Charles Burt, (88 reunion) for their efforts and a job well done. Thank you." M. Glenn Vawter.

A framed Certificate of Appreciation was presented to past president, Robert L. Vawter 1985-86 by president, Glenn Vawter.

Points of interest -

The Rev. Boyd Vaughters, father of first timer, Clayton Vaughters, was the minister of the Bethel Baptist Church for five years, 1969-1974. George Vaughters (deceased) was also minister of the Bethel Baptist church.

Lloyd Harben is running for County School Superintendent. His grandparents were James & Jane Vaughters.

Sunday 10:00 a.m.

A group of VVV's attended Bethel Baptist Church and presented the \$313.13 project offering for the cemetery fund.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A RUCKER reunion is planned for Oct. 1 & 2 at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Marcus L. Watson (Anna), Hwy 33, Box 56, Ruckersville, VA 22968 Tel. (804) 985-2482

If you need a space to park your RV, please contact Anna at the above address and she will arrange a spot for you.

A "Pig Roast" is planned and tours of cemeteries and old Rucker homes.

Stella Vaughter Christman & Wayne Sheldon Wadley were joined in marriage on June 2, 1988 at Smyth County, Virginia.

Beth & Joe Melton, proud grandparents, wish to announce that a girl, Aisha Lorena Howard was born 5-18-1988 - 6 lbs. 4 oz. to Randy & Anne Howard.

NEW MEMBERS

Clarence Hill, 1757 Shawna Court, Klamath Falls, OR 97601

Josephine J. Vawter Parker, 160277 Graham, Indianapolis, IN 46218

Donald G. Vaughters, Rt. #3, Box 3110 B, Dawsonville, GA 30534

MEMORIAL

Hennie Dee Boulware age 91 of Beckville, TX died 26 July 1988. She was born 16 Oct. 96 in Kilgore, TX d/o Edgar Lee & Mary Sterrett Marshall. She was a member of First Baptist Church where she taught Sunday School for more than 50 years.

* * * * *

Gertrude Alexander Vawter age 100 died 28 May 1988 in Monroe, IA. She was a native of Bloomfield, MO and moved to Monroe in 1919.

GLEANINGS

DAR magazine, August/September 1984, page 470

New Ancestor Records

VAWTER, Benjamin, b. ca 1760, d. 3-9-1815, m. Susannah - Pvt. VA

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QUERIES

From: Delmyra D. Meeks, 201 Trailwood Drive, Herber Springs, AK 72543

I have a VAWTER ancestor and am very interested in becoming a member of your Vawter family group. My ancestor is Margaret, b. ca. 1670, the dau. of Bartholomew who married Robert Rutherford. "The Vawter Families in America" says little about my ancestor. Can you tell me more?

Reply to Delmyra's query by E. B. Vaughters of Seattle, WA. (Edited by Editor)

Bartholomew Vawter, the progenitor of the VAWTER families in America, died in 1717 in Essex Co., VA...His will dated 16 Aug. 1717 named JOHN his eldest son to receive the plantation. WILLIAM & DAVID to divide a parcel of land, being hopeful that David would be of age (21). To his daughter MARGARET he gave a cow & calf and to his two youngest sons, EDWARD & BENJAMIN (teenagers), "All my estate, both within doors and without, to be equally divided when they become age 21 years".

In his second book, Mr. Rutherford had found the Court record that Bartholomew had given a cow/calf to a MARGARET RUTHERFORD., dau. of Robert Rutherford in July 1688 and came to the conclusion that Robert Rutherford Jr. had married Bartholomew's dau. Margaret in 1687 and the heifer was a gift to their daughter Margaret, Bartholomew's grand daughter. To make the numbers come out, he claimed Bartholomew was b. 1640 and that he came to America with a 1st wife and children, Margaret, John & William, then later married Winifred Hodgson and had sons, David, Benjamin & Edward. There are fallacies to this, three out of several more are listed below:

1. Bartholomew would have been age 77 when he died, a little old to have two teenage boys.

2. There was a deposition in Court 10 Aug. 1692 that Robert Rutherford Sr. stated his age about 58 and his wife Margaret about 48. Robert Rutherford Jr. could possibly have had a sister named Margaret Rutherford to whom the heifer was given in 1688. The mystery is the circumstances surrounding the gift.

3. "Cavaliers & Pioneers" by N. Nugent (1977) p. 372 states: John Salmond, patented 61A. in Rappahanock Co., (Essex) Importation of two persons, Bartholomew Vawter and Mary Burkett. No headrights have ever been found for a wife and three children of Bartholomew's.

Historians for the TINSLEY family hold that Margaret Vawter, dau. of Bartholomew married Thomas Tinsley, s/o Thomas & Sarah H. (Jackson) Tinsley. Historians for the VERNON family hold the same. The Vernons & Tinsleys inter-married with the Vawters in subsequent generations, so until further evidence develops, it is not clear who Margaret married. For me, the "Jury is still out" on just who Margaret married.

From: Barbara Kelsey Boese, 207 E. Market, Dodge City, KS 67801-5828, Ph. 318-225-5925

My Wilford Allen was b. ca 1807 in KY., then probably went to Ripley of Dearborn Counties, IN. in the late teens or early 20's. I think I have some brothers or first cousins - mainly by the names they have given their children, but nothing positive on parents for any of them.

My Wilford Allen married twice in Ripley Co., IN to sisters - Mary Ann Permelia Connell and then her widowed sister, Sarah Prudence (Connell) Livingston.

I started working on people connected by marriage, blood, in-law, step relationships, in wills and deeds and just neighbors. I kept running across the VAWTER name. I would appreciate any information you can give me about this family.

From: Lois J. Maier, 8985 Haveteur Way, San Diego, CA 92123

I am looking for descendants of two VAWTER families who were married in Prince Edward Co., VA ca 1830; Agnes McCune m. Thomas L. Vawter 17 Sept. 1827; her sister Martha m. as a second husband, Edward P. Vawter, 4 Dec. 1834 (she was a young widow). I have been unable to find these two families listed in a printed census anywhere.

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The eleventh annual VVV reunion in Gainsville, GA took place August 5 through 8 with the following attending all or part of the reunion, a total 144 from 15 states.

Our host, Charles Burt was able to get a host of his cousins to attend the banquet Saturday night and they were a welcome sight.

CALIFORNIA

Glen & Marge Vawter
Esther M. Vawter
Lee & Edith Goodson
John & Ellen McDaris
DeWitt & Jared McDaris

COLORADO

Ted & Lydia Vawter
Lorene Grippa

DELEWARE

Robert & Mary Vawter II
Robert & Amanda Vawter III
Robert (Bobbee) & Donna Vawter

FLORIDA

Dorothy Vawter

GEORGIA

Charles & Betty Burt, Sr.
Chuck Burt
Timothy & Cheryl Glasgow
Kristen Glasgow
Pam Puckett
Clayton Hodge
E. C. Vaughter
Frances Stowers
Ina Bannister
Anne Stovall
Doug & Retha Vaughters
Margie Provine
Jeff & Sherry Disharoon
Pat Vaughters Herndon
John Carlson, Jr.
S. B. & Rebecca Vaughters
Brice Vaughters

(Georgia Cont.)

Carol Sellars
Jenny Sellars
Steve Vaughters
Flora Waters
Alice Disharoon
Steve Glasgow
Jewell Gelbert
Gary & Debra Vaughters
Carl & Ola Swafford
Lula Thompson
Wilma Vaughters
Mahala Vaughters
Clayton Vaughters
Louis & Helen Beardson
Charlie & Lois Vaughters
Charles Vaughters
Jerry Waters
Button Waters
Timothy & Nancy Vaughters
Eddie Garrett
Eula Mae Shelnut
Wanda Shelnut
Stanley Bryant
Lloyd & Janice Harbin
Donald & Jeanette Vaughters
Albert & Mildred Vaughters
Vivan Stephens
Myron Stephens
Curtis Disharoon
Elvie Mooney
Hoyt & Marie Disharoon
Justin Curtis & Heather Disharoon

MEMBERSHIP DUES \$7.00 PER YEAR - DUE AND PAYABLE IN AUGUST TO:
VVVF ASSOCIATION

Mail to: Hazel McCandless, Box 366, Cushing, TX 75760-0366

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ILLINOIS

M. Glen & May Vawter
Shirley Beasley
Michelle Beasley
Wilma Schapmire

INDIANA

Bonita Welch
Pat Vawter
Josephine Vawter Parker

MISSISSIPPI

Martha Hudson
W. S. Wiley
Tom Wiley
Emery & Clarice Mayer
Allene Wiley
Pearl Wiley
Ken & Norma Wicker
Mary Reese
Randall & Blanche Murff

MISSOURI

Linda Lee Vawter

OHIO

Willard & Lucille Keir
Virgil & Aletha Weidner

OKLAHOMA

Duncan & Sally Brown

OREGON

Beth Sabel

TENNESSEE

John & Hazel Taylor
James & Alliene Corbitt
Wendy Lynn Vawter
Robert & Norma Vawter
Frank & Sandra Robinson
Jim & Barbara DeFur
Emily & Jake DeFur

TEXAS

Bill & Sally Vawter
Joe & Beth Melton
Hazel Vawter McCandless
Edith Corley
Louise Vanover
Mark & Kathy Disharoon
Juanita Baker
Lewis O. & Evelyn Vawter
Dean & Hannah Williams
John H. & Sue Vawter

WISCONSIN

Evert & Maxine Joling
Juli Beth Aue

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