

FAMILY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: Jim Vaughters, 1233 Elmira St., Aurora, Colo. 80010

V.P.: Marv Vawter, 11205 Wornall Rd., Kansas City, Mo. 64114

SECRETARY: Bettie Nash, 2320 Sunny Lane, Killeen, Tx. 76541

TREASURER: Hazel Vawter McCandless, P.O. Box 366, Cushing, Tx. 75760

HISTORIAN/ARCHIVIST: Paul Vaughter, Jr., R. 2, Box 6, Sauk Rapids, Mn. 56379

NEWS EDITOR: Wordna Wicker, P.O. Box 360, Pontotoc, Ms. 38863

CIRCULATION EDITOR: Beth Vawter Sabel, 931 S.E. 33rd., Portland, Ore. 97214

The third nationwide V/V/V Reunion is scheduled for June 20-23 at Vauter's Church, Port Royal, Va. Plans are shaping up with all deliberate speed. An unscientific random poll has projected that 100 of the faithful will make the pilgrimage to the ancestral Church on the banks of the Rappahannock. The same poll projects that those 100 souls will talk incessantly, overeat, kiss cousins, absorb history, and enjoy a totally delightful 3-day period.

W.T. Vawter of Mineola, Tx. has observed that the Church, located on the old Vawter plantation, with its old communion silver made in 1724, and the old Bible printed in 1739, is perhaps the greatest monument to the Vawter family. It has been deemed appropriate that the family association make a love gift to the Church at the time of the reunion in June. Approximately \$400.00 has been pledged to date, and there are doubtless others who will want to have a part. Perhaps some who cannot attend the reunion would like to make a donation. With the help of Rev. Ralph Fall, a suitable item for the Church will be selected and will be inscribed as being a gift from the family association. Checks should be made out to "Vauter's Church" and mailed to L.G. "Bill" Vawter, 3019 Conway St., Houston, Tx. 77025. By way of reminder, any gift to a Church is tax deductible.

Ralph (the honorary Vawter) Fall wears many hats. In addition to his Ministerial duties, he is a noted genealogist, historian, and writer, as evidenced by his book, THE DIARY OF ROBERT ROSE, which many of the V/V/V already own, and which is required reading in order to fully appreciate Vauter's Church and its locale. At the reunion, Ralph will don his Tour Guide hat and conduct a walking tour of the historic village of Port Royal; likewise he will lead a motorized tour of the historical points of interest in the surrounding countryside. Under his leadership the ladies of Vauter's Church are making plans to serve at least one meal to the V/V/V on the Church grounds. He has arranged to have one of the homes visited by the Rev. Robert Rose and mentioned in the Diary opened to the V/V/V for an afternoon tea. The family is fortunate to have such a versatile and capable honorary kinsman.

An additional reminder that Brown's Motel at Port Royal will serve as headquarters for the reunion, and that reservations should be made immediately. Phone number at the motel (804)742-4101. For those needing camping space for motor homes, Hunters Mill Campground on Route 17 is recommended; phone number (804)443-3252. Bob Vawter of Middleton, Del. 19709, phone (302)378-9271, has invited the V/V/V to call him in case of difficulty with reservations. Refer to page 5 of the September 1979 VVVNL for additional information of reservations and overall plans.

Regarding the September 1979 Newsletter, on page 2 the death of Mrs. Lucille Vawter Walker was erroneously reported. Mrs. Walker is alive and well in Big Spring, Tx. It should have been reported that Miss Annie Vawter, aunt of Pete Vawter of Milan, Tn. had died. The editor apologizes for this error.

Henry A. Vawter of Maryville, Tn. reports the death of his cousin, Nancy Vawter Ritchie, Jan. 19, 1980 in New York City. Mrs. Ritchie had been enthusiastic about the family association and looked forward to attending one of the reunions. Our sympathy is extended to her family.

Henry Vawter ( above), W.T. Vawter of Mineola, Tx., Rev. E.M. Sharp of Memphis, and Keith Pike of Castiac, Calif. continue to experience serious health problems. Our best wishes go out to these members of the family organization.

On the brighter side, it is a pleasure to report our president, Jim Vaughters, Aurora Colo., fully recovered from his ruptured appendix, and working hard on the backlog in his law office. A communique from Jim will be forthcoming nearer reunion time.

With pardonable pride, we present the youngest member of the family association, Margaret Gayle Wicker, born December 18, 1979 at Goldsboro, N.C. to Roger and Gayle Wicker. Margaret's arrival promoted your editor and husband Fred to the happy estate of grandparenthood. Margaret has already evidenced an interest in the Vawters and asked to be registered for the reunion in June along with her parents.

On a hasty trip to N.C. to meet the new granddaughter, the Wickers stopped for the night in Augusta, Ga. A cursory check of the telephone directory revealed the name of William Vawter, 213 W. Buena Vista, N. Augusta, S.C. Lateness of the hour prevented contacting this new Vawter, but he will receive a complimentary copy of the newsletter with the hope that he will make his family line known to us.

Since the last newsletter, a number of newcomers have joined our mailing list: Richard Woods Vawter, 211 East 18 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10003, whose name was submitted by Bruce Vawter of Chicago, has sent in his subscription and requested copies of the back issues of VVVNL. His line is Philemon, Jesse, Jamison, as set out in pp. 313-18 of Bicknell. Richard's family has already made reservation's for the reunion. We look forward to meeting them in June.

Rupert E. Pike, 804 E. Church St., Booneville, Ms. 38829, whose line traces from the marriage of Mary Jane Vawter (dau. of John Vawter, IV) to James Tilford Pike. Rupert's daughter, Brenda Pike Scott, was already on our mailing list.

From Manassa, Colorado we have Faye Fitzhugh Bagwell, whose line is David-Philemon-Elliott, as set out on pp. 268-276 of Bicknell. Mrs. Bill Mack Vawter had told Faye about the family organization.

Robert H. Dart, 1512 Capistrano Ave., Glendale, Calif. 91208, is a descendant of Robert Newton Vawter, son of Lorenzo Dow Vawter and Elizabeth Dawson. He grew up in the vicinity of Yuma Valley Arizona, near the Mexican border. His family may be responsible for some of the heretofore unidentified Arizona Vawters who have been turned in to the newsletter.

Anne Rubendall, 158 Nichols Drive, Sycamore, Ill. 60178, requests help with James Vawter, b. 1802 in Va., found in Rockingham County in 1850. She descends from his daughter, Margaret, who married William Monger.

Issue No. 7 of the newsletter, page 3, under miscellaneous queries, was a request for help on the line of John Wesley Vawter, b. 1822 in Va., died 1887 in Iowa. His descendant, Sue Curtis, 6516 Chaffee Rd., # 133, Des Moines, Iowa 50315, continues to face a stone wall. Any help for Sue?

NOTE: Family dues of \$5.00 for 1980 are payable at this time. A number of our group have overlooked this matter.

It is a joy to be able to place lost members of the family with their proper clan. Such was the case with Roberta Vawter Meek, 20025 106th Dr., Sun City, Ariz. 85373, whose oldest known ancestor was Robert Washington Vawter, b. May 4, 1832 in Ky. Our very able Treasurer and Statistician, Hazel McCandless, quickly placed Roberta in the camp of the sisters, Lorene Vawter Dennis and Lucene Vawter Dennis of Colo.

A real brain-teaser arrived in the mail very recently with a letter and check from Joseph H. Chaille, 2100 Sans Souci Blvd., Apt. 1406, N. Miami, Fla. 33181, saying only that Col. James Corbitt had told him about the family organization and the newsletter. A quick check of Bicknell revealed that Ann Stribling, granddaughter of Jesse and Elizabeth (Watts) Vawter, married Joseph Chaille May 8, 1839 in Ky., and they had a number of descendants. We welcome a representative from this clan.

Cousin Eloise Wicker Knight of Pinehurst, N.C., who had previously discovered Virginia Vawter Groseclose for us, checked the index of her OMOHUNDRO GENEALOGICAL RECORD and came up these items: (1) Fannie Vawter md. Wm. Hiram Hudson, Sr. (probably ca. 1820), and (2) Malinda Vawter md. Wm. Hudson, Jr. (one of his 3 wives; no approx, date). The families were reportedly in Fluvana Co., Va. in the early 1800's, nothing definite known after that. Bicknell was no help on this puzzle. We welcome help on this one. The descendants of John IV have only a Family Bible reference of Malinda Vawter born Oct. 27, 1812 and would happily consent to the Hudson marriage if only a tiny bit of proof could be offered. You may recall that John IV (VVNL No. 7, p. 4) may have had as many as 12 daughters, many of whom died young.

From our capable Circulation Editor, Beth Vawter Sabel, comes report of the death of Mrs. Frank Vaughter of Hyde Park (Los Angeles), Calif. It has not been determined who this lady was. Almost forgot to mention that the date was Nov. 1979.

The surname "Votaw" has been mentioned several times recently. For those of us who speak "Southern", emphasis on the first syllable produces a name not unlike Vawter. It would be interesting to know the history of the name Votaw.

Census records are invaluable in tracing the paths of ancestors, yet many of the V/V/V must have equated the census taker with the tax collector, and successfully evaded him. Cases in point are:

The family of Asa S. Vawter was in Lowndes Co., Ms. in 1850, and in Tunica Co., Ms. in 1870; cannot be located in 1860. Jimmy Vaughters of Memphis would give a nickel to know the family whereabouts in between.

Anderson B. Reid and wife Matilda (Vawter) patented land in Tishomingo Co., Ms. in 1845 and 1847, Deed Bk. "X", p. 368-9, yet they have yet to be located in the census while Anderson Reid was alive. Matilda can be located in the census in 1870 and 1880. Clifton B. Reid of Iuka, Ms. would also give a nickel to know how this happened.

Hubert Vawter and Alma Vawter Allen of Hot Springs would probably give fifteen cents to know the whereabouts of their ancestor, James Newton Vawter, in 1870 and 1880. Add another fifteen cents from Silas Vawter for the whereabouts of Alleganey Vawter in 1870. James Newton was the son of Alleganey and it is possible they were together; also likely they were in North Texas.

Even with inflation, Keith Pike will pay one dollar to know the whereabouts of John Vawter IV in 1860. John was last spotted in the 1850 census of Marion Co., Ala., age given as 70, along with his third wife, Peachy, age 42.

Mrs. Frances Tiller of Carthage, Tx. (VVNL #6, p.2) writes of her great grandmother, Nancy Reicroft Weir Vawter, who was half Cherokee. The daughter of Caswell Reicroft, she was born 1833 in Tn. and survived the Cherokee's "Trail of Tears" in 1838 from the Smoky Mtns. of Tn. to Indian Territory. Mrs. Tiller would welcome information on the Reicroft (Raycroft) family.

Many of the Vawters have recently received a letter from Beatrice Bayley, Sterling, Pa. offering her book on the "rare and distinct Vawter family" for only \$19.85. Beatrice writes that she is a retired school teacher and lives on a small farm with her husband John; that she is interested in helping families keep their identity. The book offers a nationwide Vawter directory, plus information on how to search for ancestors, the history of heraldry, etc. As commentator Paul Harvey would say, "and now page 2..."

Several weeks ago your editor, whose maiden name was Threadgill, received an identical letter from Beatrice Bayley offering her book on the "rare and distinct Threadgill family". Having been somewhat unwittingly commissioned to write a book on the "rare and distinct Threadgill family" some years ago, and being the custodian of a trunk-load of assorted notes, your editor was overjoyed to learn that someone else was undertaking the task; but deemed it the "cousinly" gesture to call and offer to share with Beatrice any gems she might care to use. The first blow came when the phone was answered by a cool, detached secretary. Somehow it had seemed that Beatrice would answer the phone herself, albeit a bit breathless from running in from the chicken house. The second blow came when said cool secretary could not understand the Threadgill name until it was pronounced and spelled several times; but never mind, maybe her hearing is bad. The crowning blow was that Mrs. Bayley did not accept phone calls and would not be interested in collaborating on any family history - far too busy for that. Page 3.

It would appear that Mrs. Bayley is in the wholesale business of helping rare and distinct families find their identity. If you always wanted a nationwide directory of Vawters who have telephones or utilities (for sending out Christmas cards and invitations to the daughter's wedding), then the book is just what you need. It will be interesting to see how her list compares with the one amassed by Beth Sabel. Meanwhile Paul Vaughter, Jr. and his committee will need to continue with plans for putting together the comprehensive history of the Vawter, Vaughter, Vauter, Votter, Votaw(?) family, and your editor is still searching for someone to put together the rare and distinct Threadgills.

If someone who ordered the Bayley book will report on the number of spellings of the Vawter name mentioned, it will be noted in the next newsletter. The editor has, alas, squandered all her mad money on a phone call to Pennsylvania.

THE REUNION: Reservations should be made immediately with the motel. L.G. "Bill" Vawter should be informed as to the number who will expect to eat meals with the collective group; also, he needs to know if you will be flying to Washington and will want to go on to Port Royal by chartered bus or van.

Remember the donation to the Vauter's Church fund.

"A people which takes no pride in noble achievements of remote ancestors, will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered with pride by remote descendants."  
McCaulay

"People who do not pay dues to family organization will shortly be dropped from newsletter mailing list". Vawter

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