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FAMILY ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER
Spring 1984

Volume 8 #3

FAMILY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Robert M. (Pete) Vawter, 509 Oaklawn, Milan, TN 38358
TREASURER: Hazel (Vawter) McCandless, Box 366, Cushing, TX 75760
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1984 VVVFA REUNION

Spring is upon us and it is time to make your reservations for the reunion August 3-4-5 at Nacogdoches, Texas.

We have a block of 50 rooms saved for the VVVFA Reunion at the: Fredonia Inn, 200 North Fredonia Street, Nacogdoches, TX 75961 – Phone (409) 564-4665.

The cut-off date for reserving these particular rooms is 21 July 1984. You can still make reservations after that date and take a chance on room location. When making reservations, please remember to say they are for the VVVFA Reunion.

There is another reunion scheduled at this time and they have reservations for a block of 20 rooms.

Room Prices

One person \$38.00 – Two persons \$45.00 – Additional person/rollaway/crib \$6.00 each.

Children under 12 free.

Parlor (2 rooms) \$79.00 – (3 rooms) \$104.00 – (4 rooms) \$132.00

Our on site coordinator for the reunion is Rev. JOHN VAWTER, 822 Evelyn, Nacogdoches, TX 75961.

Description

Fredonia Inn is located in downtown Nacogdoches and has 114 rooms. There are special suites for entertaining, poolside cabanas, and a picturesque garden “Greenery” restaurant which serves a noon buffet daily.

NACOGDOCHES

Nacogdoches is rich in Texas heritage. Learn of the legend of the Caddo Indian Tribe which gave it its name. You will enjoy the beauty of the historic old homes and downtown business buildings constructed in the 1800’s. See some of the oldest brick streets in existence in the state of Texas.

You will learn of some of the historic battles fought by Spain, France, and Mexico to gain control of the Texas territory. Its history dates farther back than recorded history. The territory was first explored in 1542 by De Soto. In 1685 the French came, and in 1716 came the earliest Spanish Missions.

REMINISCING

From: TED R. VAWTER, 8175 Hooker, Westminster, CO 80030

My Grandpa, JOHN T. VAWTER, lived on a farm 3 ½ miles east of Birch Tree, MO. Come a long dry spell he was sorry he had a farm in southern Missouri. When this would happen he would sing these words to the tune of "Beula Land".

Oh Missouri land – Sweet Missouri land
As on this rocky hill I stand
I look across that dark ravine
And wonder when I went insane
If ever I owe a man a harm
I'll try to give that man this farm.

MEMORIAL

Edith Angaretta Anthony, age 73, died on December 22 in Wellington, Kansas.

Born near Peck, Kansas, she was the oldest daughter of George Milo & Harriett Elizabeth Anthony. Preceded in death by her oldest brother, George Raymond and twins Melvin Dean & Evelyn Josephine (bro. & sis), her parents and grandparents, Samuel & Margaret Ellen VAWTER. One of her surviving cousins is Edna Fern VAWTER James of Boise, Idaho.

Jeannette R. Vawter, age 69 of Shelbyville, Indiana. Born in Blue Ridge 10 June 1913. She was the daughter of George & Faye (Marshall) Fessler. She was married to Wallace L. VAWTER 18 September 1932 and he survives.

Vera Jo Wheatley, age 73 of Indianapolis, Indiana. (Sister of Edna Reynolds)
Born 4 April 1910 in Ripley County, daughter of C.J. & Nora O'Conner Wilson. Her husband, Arthur Wheatley preceded her in death in 1974.

Robert D. Vawter, age 62 of Indianapolis, Indiana. A native of Cincinnati, he lived here for 57 years and was a conductor and switchman 40 years on the New York Central System. Survivors include his wife, Blanche D. Vawter, two daughters, and a son Charles VAWTER.

MEMBER PROFILE

The Reverend BRUCE F. VAWTER, 2233 N. Kenmore Avenue, Chicago, IL 60614. Born 11 August 1921, Fort Worth, Texas. He is the son of Francis Bruce & Gertude (McFadden) VAWTER.

EDUCATION: St. Thomas Seminary College, B.A. 1942; St. Mary's Seminary (Perryville, MO.) 1942-47; Dominican University, Rome 1950; Institute Biblico, Rome 1952 & 1957.

CAREER: Roman Catholic Priest. Professor at Kenrick Seminary, St. Louis, Mo 1952-56, vice-rector 1955-56. Professor at St. Thomas Seminary, Denver, CO. 1962-67. Professor Theology De Paul University 1968. Professor Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. summers of 1958 and 59. He had summer lectures in Australia & England, plus several universities in America.

WRITINGS: Contributor to religious journals, was on board of translators for the Confraternity Version of the Old & New Testament, plus writing a number of books. Reference to one of his books on page 18 of this issue under announcements.

(The above biography taken from the books, Contemporary Authors & Directory of American Scholars.)

General Store in E. B. Vaughters Family for 75 Years (1875 – 1950)

From an article in The Daily Times of June 8, 1981 & General Business Reviews of Scioto and Pike Counties, Ohio 1891.

In the year 1875 S.S. English, great grandfather of E. B., was born in Pennsylvania 40 years earlier, arrived in Rushtown, Ohio to establish his place of business which consisted of dry goods, groceries, hardware, boots, shoes, railroad ties and a post office, which he names VAUGHTERS STORE & POST OFFICE.

Squire English did \$10,000 worth of business his first year. So important was this newcomer to the community that he was appointed trustee of Rush Township to fill a vacancy, then in 1877 was elected to the office, serving three terms.

In 1912 the grandfather of E.B., THOMAS G. VAUGHTERS, took over the family store, VAUGHTERS STORE & POST OFFICE, and operated it until 1918 when he turned it over to his son, IRA J. VAUGHTERS who operated it until 1950.

THOMAS VAUGHTERS was a native of Scioto County, Ohio, born 3 December 1848. After education he became a school teacher for eight years and married in 1879. THOMAS commenced mercantile life in 1878 at Wetmore, Pike County on the Scioto Valley Railroad as THOMAS G. VAUGHTERS STORE & POST OFFICE. He was appointed postmaster at Wetmore by the government. He continued there for five years before moving to Young, Scioto County where he erected a substantial business structure and residence. His application to the Post Office Department was accepted and he conducted business there as THOMAS G. VAUGHTERS STORE & POST OFFICE. Then in 1912 he took over his father's store, VAUGHTERS STORE & POST OFFICE.

VAWTER CHURCH FOR SALE

From William & Mary College Quarterly, Vol. X, p. 257. The article "Sale of A Colonial Church".

In 1798 the following ad appeared in the Fredericksburg Herald. "To be Sold – A House built for a church, the main body 16 X 24 feet, well framed, of white oak timber and outside of Pine plank, with feathered edges shingled with chestnut shingles, the interior adorned with pulpit, type pews, railing and two galleries with seats and aisles. It is nearly in the midst of the Robinson Fork. The time of payment will be agreed upon at the day of sale. (Signed by) RICHARD VAWTERS, Madison County".

History of the Parish and Counties – "Broomfield Parish, in Madison County, VA was cut off from St. Mark's Parish by act off Assembly in 1752; including what is now Madison and Rappahannock Counties.

St. Mark's Parish was taken from St. George's in 1731; Orange County from Spotsylvania in 1734, Culpeper County was taken from Orange in 1748.

The chief church was called VAWTERS, which must not be confused with VAWTERS in Middlesex or Essex Counties.

NOTE: In "St. Mark's Parish" Slaughter says that the VAWTERS were a prominent family in Broomfield Parish.

GLEANINGS

From your Editor: In the Virginia Genealogist, Volume 16 (1972) on pages 217-218 is a list of Post Offices in Louisa County, VA before 1890. It listed, VAWTER'S STORE & POST OFFICE (1887-1909) located in Vigor, VA.

From E. B. VAUGHTERS of Seattle who has enlarged on the above:

In the 1810 census there was a BENJAMIN VAWTER in Orange County, VA. He had a son Benjamin who by the 1830 census was age 30/40 and had two sons, William & Richard, five years of age or under.

In the 1850 census of Louisa County, VA William was age 26, single, and a wheelwright. Richard was age 21, single and an overseer, living in Orange County.

WILLIAM T. VAWTER b. 1824/25 m. Mary I. _____ of Louisa County, VA and had a son WILLIAM H. VAWTER, b. 1856 who married Ella Terrell. It was they that had the VAWTER STORE & POST OFFICE in Vigor, VA. The town of Vigor no longer exists.

The children of William H. & Ella (Terrell) VAWTER

1. Mary Ann m. Walter Elam
2. Clifton T. m. Ezzie Massie
3. Ernest Lindsey, b. 1894, m. Virginia Roberts.

#3 - ERNEST LINDSEY VAWTER d. August 1983 at age 89. His son, WILLIAM B.

VAWTER, retired, is now living at the Old Vawter Store home place, Rt. #2, Box 78, Louisa, VA.

* * * * *

From E. B. VAUGHTERS of Seattle in answer to the query of Mrs. Joe Nash of Longview, Texas in issue 17 (1982).

E. B. found the marriage record of her g-g-grandmother, Nancy VAWTER who married William Bailey Harris in 1822. This marriage record states that Nancy is the daughter of LEMUEL VAWTER.

NEW MEMBERS

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Robertson, Rt. #3, Box 194, Mt. Pleasant, TX 75453

Frances Stowers, Rt. #1, Box 1068, Dawsonville, GA 30534

Lewis & Evelyn Vawter, Rt. #7, Box 143, Marshall, TX 75670 (Lewis is the only brother of Perry W. Vawter mentioned as last item in "Gleanings" section Vol. 8 #2 p. 10.

Arthur Lee Vawter, Jr., 3110 Uvalde Ave., Nederland, TX 77627 (grandfather was Albert C. VAWTER, s/o John T. VAWTER & Pamela Dwyer, s/o Wm & Frances VAWTER)

David Vawter Lee, Rt. #1, Tremont, IL 61568 (Line: John, John, David, Philemon, Elliott, Jephtha, Henry Clay, Lewis H., Louise (VAWTER) Lee, David Vawter Lee.)

Chris & Dru Vaughter, 310 N. 37 W. Ave. Tulsa, OK 74127

YOUNG VAWTER POET

From: Campbell Chronicles and Family Sketches, Embracing the History of Campbell County, Virginia 1782-1926 by R. H. Early- p. 204. Also Lynchburg and It's Neighbors by Rosa Faulkner Yancey, p. 211-12.

The earliest Lynchburg poet, of whom record is found, was BRANSFORD VAWTER son of a tailor who was among the first settlers in the town. Born in 1815/16, he early developed talents of a superior order, and his death of tuberculosis at the age of twenty three was a disappointment to his many friends. He is described as having a graceful, slender figure, dark and very brilliant eyes, and well-cut, intellectual features. He was very popular, and a genial, pleasant companion. Even though so young he was made an officer in a military company called "Invincibles", and president of the Patrick Henry Debating Society.

His poems, were not collected in book form, but he was a contributor to the Southern Literary Messenger. One of these poems was copied into other magazines and was set to music. It became one of the most popular songs of the day, both in this country and in Europe, where it was translated and sung in many languages. It was said to have been inspired by an unhappy attachment to a Lynchburg lady. The name of the song is, "I'd Offer Thee This Hand of Mine".

From: William and Mary Quarterly, Vol. 4, p. 278

In the article "Descendants of John CANN, President of William & Mary College", it says, "Issue of third son of President CANN married Elizabeth Powell. The fifth child, Emma, died in her youth, unmarried. The old song "I'd offer Thee This Hand of Mine" is to have been written to her by BRANSFORD VAWTER of Lynchberg."

BRANSFORD is buried in the family square in the Old Methodist Graveyard. The lot is enclosed by a brick wall, whitewashed and with lilacs blooming. There are no stones to mark the graves. A later Lynchburg poet memorialized his burial place with the poem "The Grave of Bransford Vawter".

QUERIES

From your Editor:

Who were the parents of FRANCES VAWTER SHELTON, born 12-3-1798 at Bradford Co., KY. and married Elijah P. DALE, 10 April 1817? Which branch does she belong to?

Was the wife of EDWARD VAWTER Elizabeth Boulware? Edward VAWTER, Elizabeth VAWTER, and Edward's eldest son, Samuel VAWTER witnessed JOHN VAWTER'S will dated 23 May 1748, four years later, 16 Nov. 1752, after John had died, the will was presented in Court and only EDWARD VAWTER & ELIZABETH_VAWTER proved it. In 1752 Samuel was probably married and gone. Comments, please.

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

NAME _____ New _____ Renewal _____
STREET ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

ANNOUNCEMENTS

From: EDNA REYNOLDS, Rt. #1, Butlerville, IN 47223

A clipping from a religious magazine advertising the sale of a book written by BRUCE VAWTER C. M. with the title of Job & Jonah - Questioning the Hidden God. It can be ordered from: Paulist Press, 545 Island Road, Ramsey, N. J. 07446. It is paperback with the price of \$4.95 plus \$1.00 for handling and postage.

From: JANIS LEE, Rt. #1, Tremont, IL 61568

Janis is writing a book on the descendants of JEPHTHA D. VAWTER (p. 281 Bicknell). It will give information about those who lived in Kansas as well as those who lived in Illinois.

One of Jephtha's grand-daughters is still living with good memory recall and has been interviewed many hours. The book will be cross referenced, documented, and will include a letter written by ELLIOTT VAWTER to his son Jephtha.

JANIS hopes to have it ready for the 150 year celebration of the founding of Tremont, Illinois.

(Line of descent: John, David, Philemon, Elliott, Jephtha, Henry Clay, Lewis Henry)

From JAMES S. CORBITT, 118 Gardner Ave., Martin, TN 38237 .

On February 11th 1984 there was a reception for MATTIE (VAWTER) EDMONDSON in Donelson, TN to celebrate her ninetieth birthday. Mattie is from the Rutherford County, Tennessee line.

From your EDITOR:

If you have any suggestions for the office of Vice President of the VVVFA or for any of the other positions, send your suggestions to: Ted R. Vawter, 8175 Hooker, Westminster, CO 80030.

In future issues I plan to have short biographies of the numerous clergy in the VVV Family Association.

I am interested in material about towns named after a VAWTER or allied line. I would appreciate material on Ruckerville, VA, Ruckerville, TN, and Ruckerville, GA. There must be other towns named after your ancestors.

I am short on REMINISCING stories, so would appreciate more material.

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