

NEWSLETTER Spring 1986

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FAMILY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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1986 VVVFA REUNION

By the calendar spring is upon us even though the weather may not display this. It is time to think seriously about attending the VVVFA reunion August 1-2-3 in Tupelo, Mississippi at the Ramada Inn. Details on accommodations, meals and transportation will be given in the next issue of the newsletter. Hosts for the reunion will be Mr. & Mrs. Fred Wicker.

We expect to have a great time meeting new cousins, visiting with known ones, and sharing in general. Bring your camera, recorder, and VAWTER data for photo copy sharing. There are also numerous points of interest to see and visit.

TUPELO

Best known as the birthplace of Elvis Presley. In 1934 the father of Elvis borrowed \$180 for materials to build a small frame house. Inside that 2-room house on January 8, 1935 Elvis and a twin brother were born with his brother dying at birth. When Elvis was age three the home was repossessed. The city later purchased it along with 15 acres and made it into a park. Most of the funds for improvement came from fan donations. In August of 1977 the Elvis Presley Commission was formed and charged with the responsibility of governing and overseeing the birthplace, youth center and attendant facilities.

You will also find the Tupelo Museum, Tupelo Arboratum, National battlefield sites, public golf course and tennis court. Nearby is the 450 mile Natchez Trace Parkway and the Tennessee Tombigbee Inland Waterway. Six miles east of Tupelo off Hwy. 6 is the Tombigbee State Park offering camping facilities, cabins, lodge, swimming, fishing, water skiing, tennis, nature trail, canoe and boat rentals. For those interested you will find two large shopping malls and more than a dozen antique shops. A wide range of cuisine is featured such as the famous Tupelo pond-raised catfish 'n hush puppies, award winning barbeque, Deep South southern fried chicken and a number of "fresh" vegetable restaurants.

TENNESSEE-TOMBIGBEE INLAND WATERWAY

The Tenn-Tom Waterway is a canal connecting the Tennessee and Tombigbee Rivers, 234 miles in length, and the connecting artery between the Ohio, upper Mississippi and Tennessee River. Approximately 36,000 acres of water and 20,000 acres of land are available for recreation purposes. Our hosts hope to make plans for the VVVFA to take a ride on the waterway. There will be much to hear, see and do with something, we think, to interest everyone. Start planning and saving so you can enjoy all these good things with all the other VVV's.

MEMBER PROFILE - ORA WILEY WICKER

Oldest member attending VVVFA reunions

Born Sept. 25, 1899 in Union Co., MS., the oldest child of Thomas Street Wiley and Emma Vawter Wiley. When she was five years old, the family, including a younger sister, Vallie (Mrs. Tom Cox) moved to Oklahoma Territory, settling near Vawter kin at Lindsay on the Washita River. Her second sister, Mary, (Mrs. Ike Lansdale) was born shortly after the move to Oklahoma. Ora began school at Linsdale, and recalls the excitement of Oklahoma being granted Statehood about the time of her 7th birthday.

The family later migrated, along with other Vawter relatives, to the West Texas town of Vernon, on the Red River. There she and her sister, Vallie attended school, and she recalls seeing her first automobile while living at Vernon. When she was nine years of age, a longing for home brought the family back to North MS., where the family settled near Hickory Flat in Benton Co. Two brothers were born into the family: William Street and Thomas Lamar, plus two additional sisters, Mamie and Addie, the former dying at age three.

Frustrated in her desire to enter Nurses' Training, she elected instead to become a wife, mother, and community and church leader. She married Thomas Murry Wicker on June 23, 1923 and to this union were born five children: Thomas Frederick, William Murry, James Kenneth, Charles Gibson, and Mary Elaine. Feeling the lack of higher education in her own life, she encouraged college for all her children. Widowed at age 47 with three children still at home, she sold her farm and moved her family to Memphis, TN., where she realized her lifelong ambition in obtaining a degree as a Licensed Practical Nurse at Baptist Memorial Hospital. Twenty-five years of hospital and private duty gave zest to her life at the stage when many women are settling into the rocking chair. A second dream was realized when she was able to take art lessons, and her home was soon filled with her drawings. Forced by arthritis to sell her Memphis home in 1984, she moved to Tupelo, MS. to be near her family.

Her childhood memories of Oklahoma and the affinity for her Vawter kin remained throughout life. In 1977 when Bill Vawter and Hazel McCandless visited the Wickers in Mississippi and they all decided to "crash" Paul Vaughter's Ardmore, Oklahoma Vawter Reunion, Ora wrote 25 post cards to her Vawter cousins urging them to attend. The result was the first VAWTER/VAUGHTER family gathering - the culmination of Paul Vaughter's dream that the two branches of the family would be brought together.

Of the eight nationwide family reunions, Ora has missed only one. She has been recognized four times as the oldest member present. She has filled six photo albums with pictures taken at the reunions, all of which she dutifully hauls each year to the meeting place. She manages to come across as the oldest, youngest, and most enthusiastic member of the family association. The Ninth Annual Vawter/ Vaughter/ Vauter Reunion will be held in Tupelo, MS., her present hometown. It will be dedicated jointly to Ora Wiley Wicker and Paul H. Vaughter, Sr., without whose efforts there would probably have been no nationwide family organization.

(Editor's note: A Member Profile on Paul H. Vaughter, Sr. will appear in the next issue of the newsletter.)

NEW MEMBERS

Robert H. Vawter, 581 NE 34th Ct. #A, Oakland Park, FL 33334
Daryl D. Smith, 27 Stanton Rd., Darien, CT 06820
R.A. Jorgenson, Box 254 ARI, Center Ossipee, N.H. 03814
(Daryl & R.A. descend. Ludwell Vaughter, David R., David O. & Nelson A. Vaughter.)

GENEALOGY - DESCENDANTS OF DAVID & MARY (RUCKER) VAWTER

- I <u>Bartholomew Vawter</u> (ca. 1660-1717) <u>Winifred Hodgson (Hodges)</u>
- II John Vawter (ca. 1691-1752) Margaret Noel
- III <u>David Vawter</u> b. ca. 1720. In 1750 he married his 15 year old niece, <u>Mary Rucker</u>, dau. of his sister, Margaret Vawter & Ephrium Rucker, and settled on land given him by his father. Like many others, he fell on hard times during the Rev. war. At Gen. Burgoyne's defeat at Saratoga, N.Y., 17 Oct. 1777 he surrendered nearly 6000 men and valuable military stores. The Albemarle Barracks and prisoner compound was erected and Jan. 17, 1779 David Vawter signed up for guard duty for six months and died at Albermarle "worth nothing at all". His widow lived in "great distress" until she remarried 2nd James Rentfrow and moved to KY where she died and was buried in Woodford county before 1797.

Children: *1. WILLIAM m. Mary Rucker 19 June 1784 (See below)

- 2. Jesse m. Elizabeth Watts 29 March 1781 (See Bicknell p. 10)
- 3. Philemon m. Anna Vawter, his cousin ca. 1779 (See Bicknell p. 255)
- 4. Winifred m. James Dabony 23 Feb. 1775 Orange County, VA
- 5. Margaret m. Achilles Stapp 27 Nov. 1782 Orange County, VA
- 6. Mary (Polly) m. John Gatewood 1790 Fayette County, KY
- 7. David d. single (possibly illness) during Rev. War.
- William Vawter b. 1750/2, enlisted 1 March 1777, Rev. War, 1st VA State Reg. IV and served to its conclusion, rising to the rank of Lt. He married 19 June 1784 at Madison County, VA to his cousin, Mary Rucker, dau. of his mother's brother, Elliott Rucker and wife Mary. They settled in Woodford Co. KY. William was a lawyer and a member of the KY. House of Rep. 1797, 1799-1800 and the State Senate 1806-10. He was named in 40-50 land transactions as grantee or grantor, involving thousands of acres of land. He d. 27 Nov. 1823 at New Burlington, Boone Co., KY where he had spent his declining years. The 21st day of Jan. 1783 the land office at Richmond, VA issued William Bounty Land Warrant #97 for 2666 2/3 acres for his Rev. War service. William apparently never received it. The Land Office reports "We find no evidence of this land warrant being used to authorize a survey and obtain land". After he died, his son William Jr., on behalf of the heirs, made an affidavit to the Dept. of war, "that William (Sr.) had never received his land warrant" The estate then was issued, 20 Dec. 1832 warrant #1699 for 200 acres and a claim for 1/2 pay in the amt. of \$6,688.89 was paid. The only children surviving their father in 1829 were, Edmond F., Virginia, William, Jr., Thomas L(ewis), and George M. The 30th Aug. 1783, there was a legal notice in the VA Gazette of unclaimed mail for William Vawter at the Richmond, VA Post Office. Could this have been the land warrant issued 21 Jan. 1783 that William never received? Children:
- 1. Edmond Fleming b. 1787, was a lawyer, prosecuting atty., Boone Co., and member of the KY house of Rep. 1837 & 1841. He m. Elizabeth Smith Mason Co., KY 25 March, 1809.

Children: (1.) Alfred Fleming, d/s, drowned in the Ohio River.

(2.) Margaret m. Mr____ Riley. Died after 1850 One son, Fleming, d/s.

- 2. Thomas Lewis, d/s after 1830
- 3. George M. Went to New Orleans, died of fever after 1832
- 4. WILLIAM, JR. (See on back of page)
- 5. John R., Last 1820 census, Town of LeRoy, Genessee, N.Y. He and wife age 26/45, one son and one dau. under age 10.
- 6. David Jameson, married 13 June 1812 Harriot E. Rucker, d. before 1829.
- 7. Virginia A., Spinster
- 8. Mary G., m. Mr.____Tandy, d. before 1829
- 9. Margaret, m. Mr_____ Bascorn, d. before 1829. One dau. Ann.
- 10. Maria m. George W. Rucker, 4 Oct. 1810. Died before 1829
- 11. Heman Served in the war of 1812, d/s 4 Feb. 1817.

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V William Vawter, (Jr.), b. 4 April 1795, Woodford Co., KY., ca. 1835 moved to MO. Served in the legislature there and died 31 March 1858, Fulton, MO, m. (lst) Sarah Neave of Cincinnatti in 1835.

Children: 1. William, Died in infancy

- 2. Jane Neave, b. 16 Jan. 1837, m. Jacob Keithley 27 Oct. 1857, Monroe Co. MO.
- 3. Charles, Died in infancy

Married (2nd) ca. 1849, Amanda Poage. Children:

- 4. Alfred Fleming, b. 184l, Died in Los Angeles 21 May 1925
- 5. James Henry Clay b. 20 Feb. 1842, Died ll Feb. 1915, m. Eva M, Vaughn
- 6. Thomas Pierce, b. 17 Aug. 1843, d. 19 Dec. 1932, m. Ada Arlene Vaughn. Saline Co., MO 22 Oct. 1868.

Children:

- (1.) Emma, b. 6 Dec. 1869 (DAR #131643)
- (2.) Eva May, b. 16 May 1871 (DAR #126797)
- (3.) William Alvis, b. 28 Feb. 1873, m. Nettle Kelly 25 Aug. 1901- no children.
- (4.) Arthur Tipton, b. 29 Dec. 1875, m. 1st Clara Irvine, 15 June 1902. One dau. Eliz b. 1904. Married 2nd Ruth Chaney 27 Dec. 1916.
- (5.) Thomas Pierce, Jr., b. 10 Sept. 1877, d. 3 March 1939, m. 30 March 1904, Bessie O'Dell, One dau.
- (6.) Iola Haewood
- (7.) Edgar Souther, b. 8 June 1892, m. 25 Dec. 1907, Gertrude Alexander.
- (8.) Franklin Poagem b. 20 April 1883 Never married.
- (9.) Estelle, b. 20 Feb. 1885, d/s 7 May 1898
- (10.) Aureline, b. 24 Feb. 1888, m. 17 Feb. 1908 Hermann w. Stoll. One son, William, b. 13 Aug. 1910.
- (11.) Ernest Vaughn, b. 27 May 1891,d. 4 Dec. 1935,
- m. Katherine Fisher 16 Nov. 1914.

Children: (a.) Mary Katherine, b. 20 Nov. 1916 m. Carol E. Lundell. On.: dau. Karen

Louise, b. 1 Dec. 1941.

(b.) Marvin, b. 25 Sept. 1918

(Last male descendant known of this family line)

- 7. Dr. William Franklin, b. 28 Dec. 1844, d.___, m. Miss T. H. Buck
 - (1.) son, William A.

Married (2nd) Susie Fray

- (2.) John Franklin
- (3.) David Dobyns
- (4.) Charles Edward
- (5.) Martha
- 8. Mary, died in infancy
- 9. John, died in infancy

Submitted by E. B. Vaughters, 12015 1st Ave. N.W., Seattle, WA 98177

QUERY

From: Annete Ward, P. O, Box 122, Windfall, IN k6076

Sophronia P. Vawter, b. 1854, Mississippi, m. E. Henry Tapp also born in MS 1854. Lived in Arkansas, later Fannin Co., TX 1910 census. Son David Vawter Tapp, b. 2 May 1891. Who were the parents of SOPHRONIA P. VAWTER?

Spring 1986 p. 17 GLEANINGS From: E. B. Vaughters, 12015- 1st Ave. N.W., Seattle, WA 98177

NATION ARCHIVES, SEATTLE BRANCH, WAR 1812 FOLDER INDEX Lemuel Vaughter, 4th reg., VA militia. Under - Lt. Col. McDowell Lt. Col. unreadable Lt. Col. Chilton Ludwell Vaughter, 4th reg. (Greenhill's) VA militia - Pvt. Jesse Vaughter, 7th reg. (Saunder's) VA militia - Pvt. Samuel Vaughter, 7th reg. (Saunder's) VA militia-Pvt. Beverly Vauters 4th reg. (Greenhill's) VA militia - Pvt. Bowler Vawter, 111th reg. (Parker's) VA militia- Pvt. Boulware Vawter, 6th reg. (Daingerfield's) VA militia - Pvt., Sgt. Iram Vawter, 6th reg. (Coleman's) Jan. - May, 1814, VA militia - Pvt. (Filed under Hiram) Also July- Jan. 1815 Silas Vawter, 6th reg. (Gayle's) VA militia - Pvt. Alamander Vauter, 1st reg. (Crutchfield's) VA militia - Pvt. ' Benjamin John Vawter, Cooks Detatchment, VA militia- Pvt. Aaron Vanters, Johnson's reg. mounted KY Vols. - Pvt. Achilles Vawter, 8th reg. (April - June 1812) Indiana militia - Pvt. Beverly Vawter 8th reg. (April - June 1812 Indiana militia - Pvt. John Vawter, Major in Col. McFarland's Det., Indiana militia Heman Vawter, Sgt., Capt. Holt's company, 17th infantry, VA militia (Most of the above names re-listed under various surname spellings) (Ludwell, also see it listed as "SEEDWELL) Benjamin Vauter, 9th reg. (Boyd's) VA militia - Pvt. 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______ DATE _____ CITY____STATE___ZIP___

(give your VVV line on back) PHONE _____

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP!

Circulation Editor, Beth Sabel, 931 S.E. 33rd, Portland, OR 97214 desires your help in locating the addresses of the following:

Dr. Grace Rohner Margaret Jefferies Mrs. Irene Cox Rev. & Mrs. W. C. Vaughters

A few volumes of I and II of the Vawter Vital Vittles Cookbook are available. If you don't have a copy of each of these you are missing a treat. They also are a great gift item for friends or relatives. Order from Beth Sabel - address above -cost \$6.00 each.

It has come to my attention that Father Bruce Vawter has a new publication out called "On Genesis". It is in the form of 12 cassettes (10 hrs.) with a study guide in a vinyle album at a cost of \$84.95. Quote, 'Father Vawter is internationally recognized as a leading expert on Genesis. You will receive clear reliable explanations of creation, the fall, God's first covenants with us and the central role of Abraham. You will see why our beginnings are so powerful in understanding who we really are. This program brings you outstanding scholarship in a chapter-by-chapter commentary."

We hope you are working on some hand craft to bring to the VVVFA Reunion. We have had many beautiful examples of craft-work at our last two reunions, for our door prizes. The gifts will be examples of all kinds of hobbies and will be on display before the drawings.

CORRECTION

I typed an error in the last issue of the newsletter in the announcements section. I quoted a price of \$15.00 for the book, The Diary of Robert Rose. That was the price of the first printing. The second printing went up to \$25.00.

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