



NEWSLETTER

FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Summer 1987

Volume 11 #4

FAMILY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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THE TENTH ANNUAL VVV FAMILY ASSOCIATION REUNION

It will take place July 31 thru August 2 at the Holiday Inn in Columbus, IN. Reservation cut off date is July 16 for our allotted spaces. When making Reservations by phone (812) 372-1541 be sure and say that you are attending the VVV reunion so as to get our special rates. If you have a common VVV name, please give your middle initial .

Queen (one queen bed) 1 person, \$41.00; 2 persons, \$50.00

Standard (two double beds) 1 person, \$49.00, 2 persons, \$59.00

King/ Sofa (King bed with Queen sofa bed) 1 person, \$49.00; 2 persons, \$59.00

Holidome (two double beds, poolside) 1 person, \$54.00; 2 persons, \$66.00

For each additional person, add \$7;00. No charge for those age 19 and under staying with parents. Check-in time 4:00 p.m. and check-out time is noon.

Early registration will begin Thursday, July 30 at 4:00 p.m. in the banquet room. The evening will be spent informally visiting and catching up on VVV news of the past year. If you have tapes of previous years' reunions, be sure and bring them as we will have a VCR available.

Friday morning will begin with the officers breakfast at 8:00 a.m. and then a group session at 10:00. Lunch will be on your own. At 1:00 p.m. we will depart for a tour of Columbus. The first stop is at the Visitor's Center which is located in the nineteenth century home of John Vawter Storey. He was a grandson of John Vawter, founder of Vernon, IN. The tour will end at Mill Race Park where we will have a picnic supper and carriage rides. Friday night there will be another group session in the banquet room.

Saturday will be spent visiting Nashville, IN. In this town are about 250 craft, antique and specialty shops. Artist and illustrator, Will Vawter spent much of his adult life here and it is the location of his studio. Plans are being made to arrange a display of his paintings at one of the art museums. The annual banquet will be held on Saturday night in the hotel.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Memorial Service will be held at the conclusion of the Saturday night banquet and meeting. Names and information for this service should be sent to: Wordna Wicker, P. O. Box 360, Pontotoc, MS 38863.

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Remember to bring items of your craft or hobby for our drawings which will take place at each of our group sessions.

On Sunday morning, we have been invited to worship together at the First Baptist Church of North Vernon. Many of the association members have strong ties to this church. William and Frances Vawter were members of the church in 1835 and he was the first pastor. Following lunch, those who want to do so will be able to visit the old Vawter cemetery in Selmier State Forest, the Vernon cemetery, and other points of interest, such as Madison, Wirt, Morgantown and Franklin.

TRANSPORTATION

Those traveling by car should take the State Road 46 exit when reaching Columbus via I-65. The Holiday Inn is located just east of the Junction of the highways. For those flying into Indianapolis, there is, unfortunately, no commuter service between the airport and the hotel. Therefore, it will be necessary for you to either rent a car or continue the trip to Columbus by Greyhound bus. If this presents a problem for anyone, please contact Bonita Welch. R.R. #1, Box 227, Scipio, IN 47273 or by phone (812) 392-2149.

APPROXIMATE COST OF EXTRAS

Friday tour of Columbus - \$4.00 Picnic supper -\$6.00
Saturday Banquet - \$15.00, children two & under free, age six & under ½ price.

MORE ON COLUMBUS, INDIANA

The front page of the Sunday, October 1986, Spectrum section of the Indianapolis Star was covered with pictures of many of its famous buildings noted for architecture.

The February 22, 1987 Parade news magazine printed an article and pictures of the advanced architecture of Columbus. Quote, "Columbus is like an oasis in the cornfield."

From: E. B. Vaughters of Seattle, WA

I have been in communication with a Mr. Lynn Rogers whose g-grandmother, Elizabeth (Wise) Rogers, daughter of Matthew & Julia (Vawter) Wise married Ephrium Rogers. (Bicknell page 241). Line: Bartholomew, John, David, JESSE, Julia (Vawter) Wise, etc.

Mr. Rogers has done some amazing research! Note the following:
JESSE VAWTER/Elizabeth Watts & family in 1790, moved to KY and settled in Woodford County on the forks of the Elkhorn where he leased a farm from Mr. Hugh Shannon for five years and joined the Great Crossings Baptist Church at what is now Georgetown, KY.

In 1795 he moved to his own farm on the North side of the Elkhorn River, 3 or 4 miles from the forks and 7 miles from Frankfort and he joined the Stamping Ground Baptist Church at McConnell's Run. Jesse then moved his 'letter' to the newly formed North Fork Elkhorn Baptist Church on Cooper's Run, a locality now known as Switzer, KY., where he began to preach ca 1800 and was ordained in 1803.

In 1806 he lost his land through a faulty title and moved to Mt. Glad near Madison in Jefferson County, Indiana.

Mr. Rogers has located the sites of these three churches in KY, and presently is attempting to locate the precise places Jesse Vawter and his Rogers ancestors lived in KY. In June of 1987 Mr. Rogers is making plans to put his canoe in the N. Fork of the Elkhorn creek at the covered bridge in Switzer, KY and go by water to Madison, IN retracing the trip of Jesse Vawter in 1806."

MEMORIAL

The Rev. Francis Bruce Vawter, born August 11, 1921 at Ft. Worth, TX died Dec. 1, 1986 at Chicago, IL. He was the son of F. Bruce Vawter & Gertrude McFadden.

Father Vawter was a member of the Congregation of the Mission (Vincentian Fathers & Brothers), the religious community of Catholic priests which founded De Paul University. A Fulbright scholar, he studied at Eberhard University in West Germany after receiving a doctorate in sacred Scripture from the Pontifical Bible Institute in Rome.

Father Vawter was an internationally renown biblical scholar and lecture, author of numerous books and articles which have been translated into several languages. He also edited the work issued by the Catholic Biblical Association of America and was editor of "Old Testament Abstract".

Line: Jesse & Frances (Watts) Vawter, David Jamieson & Susan (Conner) Vawter, Jamison & Sallie (Snyder) Vawter, F. Bruce & Gertrude (McFadden) Vawter.

* * * * *

Mark Nash, born April 16, 1905 in Chicago, IL died February 16, 1987. He graduated from the Wisconsin Institute Of Technology with a degree in mechanical engineering and worked for the Chilean Nitrate Corp., a New York firm involved in construction in Chile. It was here that he met and married Betty Huling of Lampasas, who was visiting relatives in the South American country.

Mark retired in December 1973 after serving 28 of 40 years of government service at Fort Hood as chief of utilities, deputy director of post engineering and then as post engineer.

He is survived by his wife, Betty D. Nash of Killeen; a son, Mark Nash Jr. of Lampasas; a daughter, Betsy Miller of Kenedy; two sisters, Virginia Nash and Noreen Rowan, both of Evanston, IL; and five grandchildren.

* * * * *

David L. Vawter, age 37 of North Vernon, IN was killed in an accident May 1 at 7:36 a.m. when his car struck a semi head-on. David died at the scene from head injuries received when he was thrown from his car. He was not wearing a seat belt. David was returning home from his third shift job at the Walesboro Cummins plant. The deputy sheriff said it looked as if he had fallen asleep.

David Vawter was the uncle of young Joe Vawter who met us at the 1982 reunion wanting to know more about us and the VVV Association. See issue #16, p 3 (Fall 1982) and volume 8 #2, p 7 (Winter 1983).

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Orrville Vawter of Rogers, AR died December 20, 1986; uncle of Vernon Vawter of Royal, AR. Bonnie Trumbo, daughter; Hattie (Vawter) Herron, sister; and her two daughters, Elna Dean Donathon attended the first reunion at Brady Mt. Lodge, AR.

* * * * *

Miss Effie G. Wilson, born October 5, 1903 died January 20, 1986. Line: Russel Vawter, Joseph Early Vawter, Nancy Ann (Vawter) Wilson, Newton Wilson, Melvin Wilson.

* * * * *

Rebecca Elizabeth Thompson Vawter, a native of Nashville, TN died February 3, 1987. She was a member of the Walnut Street Baptist Church. She is survived by two daughters, Beverly Mattingly of Jeffersonville, IN and Jacqueline N. Cobb; six grandchildren and three g-grandchildren.

* * * * *

Word from Paul E. Vawter Sr. of Northbrook, IL. His sister-in-law, Helen, wife of his brother John of Indianapolis, IN died November 25, 1986. Helen & John met while attending De Paul University. Line- Jesse Vawter, William, Jesse R., Jesse Philemon, & Clarence M. Vawter.

THOMAS VAUTOR- MUSICIAN

From E. B. Vaughters of Seattle, WA

In 1928, Wm S. Vawter (Bicknell p 317) then of New York City, proposed to write a sequel to "The Vawter Family in America" by Grace Vawter Bicknell 1905. In his cover letter to VVV's all over the country he promised, among other revelations, to have chapters on Will Vawter, illustrator; Bransford Vawter, poet; and Thomas Vautor, musician,. The book never was published and all efforts to trace his notes have failed. Will Vawter, and Bransford Vawter, descendants of Edward (the builder) have been identified. The Thomas Vautor in article below, must surely be the musician.

VAUTOR, THOMAS (fl 1600-20) English madrigalist. Vautor's only extant works are contained in a single madrigal volume, "The First Set, beeing Songs of Divers Ayres and Natures, of Five and Six Parts, Apt for Violas and Voices" (London, 1619-20, ed. in EM XXXIV), dedicated to GEORGE VILLIERS, the notorious Duke of Buckingham. Vautor was already in the service of the elder George Villiers and his wife when the future Buckingham (b. 1592) was still very young. At the time, the family lived at Brooksby in Leicestershire, but after the elder Villier's death in 1606, his widow remarried and moved with her sons to Goadby. On July 4, 1616 Vautor was admitted BMUS of Oxford through Lincoln College.

VAUTOR is one of the most interesting of English composers of his time. Some pieces in his volume evidently date back to the 1590's, and his work is notable for its range. Among the last works to be written were the two elegies "Melpomene Bewaile" for Prince Henry (d. 1612) and "Weepe, Weepe, Mine Eyes" for Sir Thomas Beaumont (d 1614) The terse declamation at the opening of "Mother, I Will Have A Husband" is the most striking and most Italianate moment in the whole volume, but Vautort's greatest strength lay in his ability for fashioning broader, more contraountal paragraphs..... sometimes very expressive dissonances.....such as "Fairest Are the Words Cruell Madam and Sweet Thiefe", Vautor's aptitude for tender, lighter type of madrigalian expression is best displayed in "Sweet Suffolke Owle....the piece is haunted by a shadowy, melancholy quality which transforms it into one of the most individual of English madrigals.....GROVE, A multivolume Dictionary of Music and Musicians.

BUCKINGHAM, George Villiers, 1st Duke of, (1592-1628) was the second son of a Leicestershire knight, Sir George Villiers. In 1614 he entered the service of the court, where his handsome person and engaging manners early won him favor and rapid promotion. He was later knighted and was created successively Viscount, Baron Waddon, Earl of Buckingham and Marquis of Buckingham. In 1620 he married the daughter of the Earl of Rutland, the richest heiress in the kingdom. When the expedition against Cadiz failed his popularity diminished and on two occasions his impeachment was attempted, but each time was thwarted by dissolution of Parliament by the King. In 1627 Buckingham commanded a fleet sent to relieve La Rochelle, but was unsuccessful, and returned in disgrace to England. The following year he planned a second expedition and proceeded to embark, but was stabbed in the heart by a disappointed officer named John Felton. "The American Peoples Encyclopedia".

E. B. Vaughters has been in contact with Dr. L. H. Long, Ph. D (cantab.) D. Sc., a retired college professor of Exeter, England. Dr. Long said he had been interested in the compositions of Thomas Vautor and had some of his madrigals in his record library. Through him E. B. has acquired on "tape" from England, "Sweet Suffolks Owle" for five voices, sung by professionals, including the once famous Isobel Baillie, Soprano, and "Mother, I Will Have A Husband", sung by the St. George singers of the Cambridge University madrigal society, both many years ago. Sally Brown of OK has kindly consented to have on hand and play these tapes at the reunion for those who are interested.

E. B. Vaughters reports that he won't be able to attend the reunion this year because of his health.

New Movie With A Vawter Descendant

Eric Stoltz, grandson of Marion Vawter (bro. of our Ted Vawter) stars with Mary Stuart Masterson in "Some Kind of Wonderful".

From: May 15, 1987 Encore section of the Sacramento Bee

"Red-headed Stoltz plays a kid with artistic inclinations whose father thinks he should go into business. This character is a kid who doesn't fit into any of the cliques or niches his peers or family want to mold him into. His only weapon is his belief in himself.

Stoltz's soft speech masks a firm resolution to go his own way. He's the actor who dropped off the instant-stardom roller coaster when he was bumped from the lead role in "Back to the Future" in midproduction to make room for Michael J. Fox. His most memorable part, in "Mask", was played behind a ton of makeup.

His classic good looks have hardly been seen yet, though three releases in 1987 may yet make him poster material: "Lionheart", in which he leads a crusade in the middle Ages; "Sister, Sister", a romantic thriller that gives him a chance to play a grown-up at last, and this last film "Some Kind of Wonderful", a high school epic.

His real life was outside of school. "I joined a summer theater program when I was nine or ten. In Santa Barbara it was what all the kids in the neighborhood were doing. We did all kinds of plays together. Stoltz retains his childlike "I know! Let's put on a show!" attitude of his youth. "The theater is a magical place."

See Vol. 9 #4 P 20 (Summer 1985) for more about Eric, his talented sisters and parents. His parents are planning to attend the reunion this year.

Line: John Vawter, David, Jesse, Wm., John Taylor, Albert C., Marion, and Evelyn (Vawter) Stoltz.

ANOTHER VAWTER GATHERING

It was 100 years ago, come this April, that two covered wagons left La Porte, CO (near Ft. Collins) for a journey. The lead wagon was driven by Kate L. (Gatlin) Fitzhugh (Bicknell p 305) daughter of James & Nancy (Vawter) Gatlin, and the second by Henry Todd Fitzhugh. The two older boys, Roy age 11, and Edgar age 9, brought up the rear, riding their favorite saddle horses, and driving a small herd of milking short-horn cattle and the extra work and saddle horses. In the first wagon, with their mother, rode Gordon, age 7, Harry age 5, Clarence age 3 and Faye age 1.

Down through the plains of eastern Colorado they wended their way. Through small settlements into Denver and on south through Colorado Springs, Pueblo and Walsenburg, then turning west over La Veta Pass on into the San Luis Valley. They traveled south again from Alamosa to La Jara where they had difficulty crossing La Jara Creek, having to use four horses on each wagon.

MEMBERSHIP DUES \$5.00PER YEAR - DUE AND PAYABLE IN AUGUST TO: VVVF ASSOCIATION

Mail to: Hazel McCandless, Box 366, Cushing, Texas 75760

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After a brief stop and rest at La Jara they continued south to Antonito and then again west to cross Cumbres and La Manga Passes. Stopping at the foot of Cumbres Pass, they paid the toll to use Mr. Jenkins toll road. After proceeding some distance they were stopped by a mud slide. Out came the plow, picks and shovels to clear the way. After several days of hard labor, they were able to proceed to Chama, New Mexico. Following the wagon trail north, up the Little Chama Valley, they came to the top of the Chama Divide. Stopping for the night Henry discovered that many pine trees had been cut.

After further investigation, grandpa Henry discovered that it was necessary to drag a pine tree behind the wagons going down the north side of the hill because it was nearly straight down. Reaching the bottom, in the afternoon, they proceeded down to the valley reaching the Navajo River. Following the Navajo River for a couple of miles they made camp for the night in a nice grove of cottonwood trees. This was June 17, 1887.

The following morning, grandpa looked over the lush grass, already up to the horses bellies, the hills were covered with a growth of pine trees, valleys full of tall rich grass, and acres of virgin soil waiting for the plow. "What more could a man ask for," said Grandpa. "This is good enough for me."

And so it was that the Fitzhugh family came to Chromo, Archuleta County to make their home for the rest of their lives. Two more children were born to Henry & Kate, Mack and Carrell (Doc).

And so, Kin and Friends, we are sponsoring a picnic to celebrate this Centennial, on Sunday, June 21, 1987. We will furnish the meats, drinks, and place. If convenient, bring a covered dish. We have trailer spaces, some beds and room for sleeping bags. You may come early and stay over longer if you wish. Place: The Fitzhugh Ranch, Chromo, Colorado. RSVP as soon as you can make plans - Alivin Fitzhugh.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The descendants of John B. & Sally Evans Vaughter and David C. & Tennie Brown Alsup Vaughter are meeting at Oaklands Park on N. Highland St. in Murfreesboro, TN on July 12, 1987 for a reunion of the Vaughters of Rutherford County, TN.

From: The Sentinel Record

Vernon Vawter has been named as "Artist of the Month" by the Traditional Art Guild of Hot Springs, AR. Vernon is a charter member of both the Southern Artists Assoc. and the Traditional Art Guild. Vernon became interested in art after returning from duty with the U.S. Army in Korea. He studied art under several artists. Vernon and his wife Trudy have their studio on the Old Bear Road near Brady Mt. Lodge on Lake Ouachita.

From: Seymour Daily Tribune

Joseph & Bonita Welch of Scipio, IN announce the wedding of their son Darren Michael to Kristina Louise Swenson at 2:30 on June 27 in Old Bethel United Methodist Church of Indianapolis, IN. Darren is a graduate of Jennings county High School and will graduate May 16 from the University of Indianapolis with a degree in mathematics and physics.

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