

**FAMILY ASSOCIATION**

Winter 1985

Volume 10 #2

FAMILY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS:

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VAWTER PARK AND THE SOUTH SHORE INN

From: Early Wawasee Days, Chapter XIII, pages 37-39 by Eli Lilly. Published 1960
Indianapolis. (Added data from Bicknell pages 54-5) Sent by Paul Vawter of Northbrook,
IL

John Terrell Vawter, businessman-banker who donated the Civil War Memorial in the courthouse square in Franklin, Indiana, was interested in real estate, also. See Civil War Memorial story: VVV Newsletter, Vol. 9, #3, Spring 1985).

He was first the builder and first proprietor of Vawter Park Hotel located in Vawter Park Village on the southern shore of Lake Wawasee in Kosciusko County, about 20 miles northeast of Warsaw, Indiana.

After having lived in Franklin for nearly 60 years, he discontinued his business interests in Franklin and moved to his land holdings at Vawter Park in 1886.

After the town was plotted in 1887, he built the hotel. Later a number of vacation cottages were erected southeast of the hotel by prominent citizens. John T. and his wife Eliza occupied the small cottage located immediately next to the hotel. At one time the local post office was in their home.

Vawter Park Hotel was known for its Victorian decor and its friendly, informal, family atmosphere, originally implanted by the Vawters. The hotel burned down between 1918-1925 and a new one was built within two years. This one burned, also. On this same site today stands popular South Shore Inn.

A favorite pastime of John T. was sailing his steamer, christened "Gazelle", on the lake. At the end of the boating season, he would invite the children of the village for a sail, providing them with treats of candy.

Descent of John Terrell Vawter: John, David, Jesse, John, Smith Vawter.

MANOR SUTTON

From: An out-line of the paper "A Brief History of the Ancient Royal Manor of Sutton" by James L. Vawter, prepared by Jim Vaughters and given at the 1985 reunion. Edited by your editor.

Norman Invasion - 1066

Before: King Edward the Confessor

After: William I the Conqueror

King Rufus

King Henry I

The Domesday Book

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1105 - Sutton) King Henry I gave to Roger de Valletort I
Kings Tamerton)
Maker) which became part of honor of Trematon
Royalty of Tamar)

Roger de Valletort II gave Honor of Trematon to Richard Earl of Cornwall "Granted presises of" Sutton, Maker and Kings Tamerton for John de Vautort de Clist St. Lawrence.

1212 - Bishop of Winchester had custody of inheritance of Roger de Valletort, including Sutton, Maker, and Kings Tamerton.

1270 - 54th year - King Henry III

1281- Inquisition - John de Vautort held Sutton and Maker
Elias de Blakeston held Kings Tamerton
Earl Edmond held Royalty of Tamerton

Vautorts gave part of Sutton to Priory of Plympyon. In the 13th century the manor was split into: Sutton Prior, Sutton Raf, Sutton Vautort

Early 1300's the inhabitants wanted a town charter.

In 1439 Borough of Plymouth formed by act of parliament from Sutton Prior, Raf, and Vautort.

1519 - Death of John Vautort
Grand-daughter, Elizabeth, inherited Sutton Vautard and Maker. She married Sir Hugh Pollard, who in 1543 sold his lordship and fee (title) of Sutton Vawletort/alias Valetort/Vawtard to William Hawkins.

1637/8 John Hawkins (descendant of William) sold hamlet of Sutton-Vauter to the city of Plymouth.

Note: More regarding this subject by James L. Vawter, P. O. Box 665, E1 Campo, TX 77437 in Spring 1983 issue on page 2. A short history of Trematon Castle page 1.

Aerial pictures (3x5) of Trematon Castle & ruins may be ordered from Beth Sabel, 931 SE 33rd, Portland, OR 97214. The black and white picture, two for \$1.00, the color picture is \$1.00.

GLEANINGS

From: Falaise Roll recording Prominent Companions of William Duke of Normandy at the Conquest of England by M. Jackson Crispin & Leonce Macary. Published Baltimore 1969 Genealogical Publishing Co.

Renaud De Vautort. From Vautortes in Mayenne. Reginald de Vautort or Valletort accompanied other barons of Maine to the conquest and received thirty-three lordships in Cornwall from Robert, count of Mortaine (1086, Domesday). Roger de Valletort, baron of Huberton, Devon, his grandson was the ancestor of the Valletorts of North Tawton and those of Acland, from whence this family.

From: Early Tours in Devon & Cornwall page 57 - Many members of the Courtenay, Valletort, Strode, and other eminent families, selected Chirch (as spelled) of the Priorie of Plymtoun for the place of their interment.

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From- E.B. Vaughters. 12015 1st Ave. N.W., Seattle, WA - VAWTER data

Ronald E. Cornwell, 1900 Stanford Place, Edwardsville, IL 62025 - Wilhoit data

ANCESTORS OF JUDGE T. WILHOIT (p. 402 Bicknell)

COUNTY FORMATION:

Culpeper, VA was split off from Orange Co. 1748 and from it, Madison Co. 1792/3.

Augusta Co., VA was split off from Orange Co. 1738/45 and was further divided into

Botentourt in 1769, Fincastle (discontinued 1777) in 1772, Kentucky Co. 1776.

FAYETTE, JEFFERSON and LINCOLN Counties 1780 which formed the 15th state, Kentucky, in 1792.

By this time Fayette Co. had been split into Bourbon, Mason, WOODFORD and Acott Counties. It was in WOODFORD Co. near the Forks of the Elkhorn, and Frankfort, the capitol, we find our first VAWTER settlers and their friends and neighbors. Versailles, the county seat, became a thriving community.

I Bartholomew VAWTER (ca. 1660-1717)/ Winifred HODGSON

II John VAWTER (ca. 1691-1752 / Margaret Noel

III Richard VAWTER (ca/ 1715-1805) / Frances TOWELS

- Children:
1. John -m. (1) Frankee Ward, (2) Joanna Vernon
 2. Russell - m. Mary Sparks (p. 373 Bicknell)
 3. Nancy - - m. ELIJAH WILHOIT
 4. Lucy - m. Mark Finks
 5. Tabitha - m. Adam Rouse
 6. Alpha - m. Robert Shelton
 7. Margaræt - m. John Breedlove
 8. Anna - m. Philemon VAWTER (her cousin)

Nancy & Tabitha were married the same day, 17 Nov. 1795. Alpha Vawter / Robert Shelton and Anna VAWTER/ Philemon VAWTER had migrated to Kentucky before 1803 along with cousins Jesse VAWTER / Elizabeth Watts and William VAWTER / Mary Rucker and other friends and neighbors including the Watts, Ruckers, Strothers, Chews, Colemans and Taylors, to name a few. Nancy VAWTER/Elijah WILHOIT were still in Madison Co. 1803 when her father died, but went later.

I Michael WILHITE b. ca. 1685 Palatine area of Germany, died June 1746 Orange Co. VA. M. Mary Margaret Blankenbaker.

II Adam WILHITE b. 1718-21, died July 1763 Culpeper CO., VA
m. Catherine Broyles ca. 1740, dau. of John & Ursula Broyles who came from Germany in 1717 with German Lutheran Colony to VA.

III John WILHOIT b. 1747 Culpeper Co., VA
Death- will probated Jefferson Co. Kentucky, Dec. 1814
m. (1)_____? Smith A son Aaron
(2) Elizabeth Blankenbaker ca. 1767 Culpeper Co., VA.
b. 1753 Culpeper Co., VA - Died after March 1815
Dau. of Michael Blankenbaker & Elizabeth Garr

Children :

1. Lewis b. 26 December 1768
2. Maryb. 17 December 1770
3. Anna.....b. 5 March 1773
4. ELIJAH.....b. 18 March 1775
5. Simeon . . . b. 8 November 1777
6. Elliott.....b...8 January 1780
7. Elizabeth..... b. 5 September 1782
8. Rhoda b. 22 May 1785
9. Julius b. 13 December 1787
10. Abrahamb. 5 February 1791

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IV ELIJAH b. 18 March 1775

m. 17 Nov. 1795 NANCY VAWTER at Madison county courthouse.

Elijah & Nancy came to Ky in 1814 and located in Woodford Co. He bought a farm at Montensville from Col. Richard Taylor that was inherited by Col. Taylor's wife from her father, William Strother. This farm adjoined the farm of Thomas Colman. whose wife was a sister of Col. Taylor's wife (she having inherited her estate from the same source).

From History of Woodford County by William E. Railey. The Taylors and Strothers were from Orange Co., VA. Col Richard Taylor and his brother Hancock had been to the Kentucky territory earlier and had surveyed Fayette, Woodford, and Franklin Counties. Col. Richard Taylor was (President) Zachary Taylor's father and they settled in Woodford County when Zachery was one year old.

Elijah WILHOIT & Nancy VAWTER has a son Hiram, who married Sophia Thornton, grand-daughter of Thomas Coleman & Susan (Strother) Hawkins (widow of Capt. Moses Hawkins. They had several children of whom JUDGE JAMES T. WILHOIT, postmaster at Versailles, was the only survivor. He married Alice Bohon and they had a son, Hiram who married Jane Henton, dau of James Henton. Hiram Wilhoit, Jr. was connected with the Woodford bank; a daughter, Martha B. who married W.W. Johnson; J.C. who m. Lora Holloway; Sophia T. who married Victor Bradley; George B. and John.

Elijah WILHOIT & Nancy VAWTER had a daughter, Malinda who married her cousin, Medley Shelton, son of Alpha VAWTER / Robert Shelton. Medley Shelton was the brother of Frances VAWTER Shelton, b. 3 Dec. 1798 who m. Elijah P. Dale in 1816. . Their nine children were: Alfred, Robert Jesse, Permelia, Medley, James, Mary Adeline, Rebecca and Malinda. They moved to Missouri in 1821.

Medley Shelton was a popular proprietor of the old Tavern in Versailles that was later supplanted by a hotel. He was a very popular citizen as well as host, and quite a clever politician. Within his tavern, such men as Henry Clay, the Crittendens, the Bredkenridges, and other luminaries of that period were entertained and it ranked as one of the most popular hosteliars in central Kentucky.

Medley Shelton represented the county in the Kentucky Legislature in 1842. Co1. Medley Shelton's mother-in-law- was NANCY VAWTER / (Elijah Wilhoit) and her cousin Wm. Vawter (Mary Rucker) who represented Woodford County in the Kentucky House of Representatives 1797/1799 and 1800 and was a member of the State Senate 1806/10, was thought to be his mentor. The other cousins, Jesse & Philemon (who had married Nancy VAWTER Wilhoit's sister Anna) soon migrated across the Ohio River to Indiana.

QUERIES

From: Wordna Wicker, P. O. Box 360, Pontotoc, MS 38863

Confederate Service records of MS list JAMES E. VAWTER, who enlisted for service May 21, 1861 at Durant, MS Holmes Co.; marched to Corinth, MS, then Tishomingo Co.; promoted to Sgt. June 18, 1861; promoted to Capt. April 28, 1862; killed in Richmond, VA. July 1, 1862. Who were the parents of James?

The Widow's Pension Application of Mary Ann (Vawter) Chaffin states that she married Christopher Chaffin 22 Aug. 1778 in Powhatan Co. VA. In 1841 Mary Ann resided in Ohio with her daughter, Tabitha Harvey. Who were the parents of Mary Ann?

From: David M. McDonald, 405 Bernard Drive, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089-3409. The Reverend Philemon Vawter of Jefferson Co., IN. married Martha Anne Humphreys. She was the daughter of Samuel Cabell Humphreys & Rhoda Jameson. She was still living in 1900. Would like to know more about this couple and would be happy to exchange information.

NEW MEMBERS

- Karen Bowman, 10602 W. 115th Terr., Overland Park, KS 66210 (Descends Bartholomew, John, Richard, Tabitha Vawter/Adam Rouse, Wm V. Rouse, Wm. J. Rouse, Lucy Rouse)
- Ms. Lee Penland, 1657 Naomi Ct., Redwood City, CA 94061 (Descends Bartholomew, Edward, Thomas, Edward Vawter/Sarah Lee, Charles Lee)
- Frank Thorwald, 202 Buston Rd., Falls Church, VA 22046
- Donald I. Vawter, 335 Pecan, Canton, IL 61520 (Descends John, David, Jesse. Wm. Jesse, John, Elroy and Harry L. Vawter)
- Mrs. Hannah F. Williams, 2235 Atascocita Rd., Humble, TX 77338 (Descends John. David, Philemon, David, John M, Thomas M., Octavia Vawter - page 367 of Bicknell)
- Marylin J. Hash, 8890 Morgantown Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46217
- Carrie Beazley Schools, Rt. 1, Box 9, Milford, VA 22514 (Descends Edward, Benjamin, Pheobe (Vawter) Beazley, Sarah Beazley, John Beazley, Carrie Beazley Schools)
- Mrs. L. T. Harrod, 3670 Barton Ave., Memphis, TN 38111 (Descends John, David, Jesse, Sarah Vawter/Thomas Stribling, Pleasant, Hester Stribling/John O. Sanford)
- E. E. Waters, Rt., #1, Box 25, Forgan, OK 73938 (Grandmother Julia Vaughters Waters and her folks were from Dawsinville & Dahlonga GA)

MEMBER PROFILE

Bill Vawter, born 5-20-1908 in Cushing, Nacogdoches Co., TX preceded his twin sister, Hazel (Vawter) McCandless by a few minutes. He was christened Lamar Gammage but nicknamed "Bill" after his grandfather, William James Vawter.

His work life began with six years spent working in a service station, then Hughes Tool. After WW II he established the Bill Vawter Insurance Agency in Houston, Texas. When he sold his agency in 1973 there were 15 employees.

In the summer of 1941 while on vacation at a dude ranch he met Miss Sally Aydelote of New Orleans which led to elopement.

Bill has been involved in so many activities they are too numerous to list. A few are: served six years as vice chairman of the Governors Committee on Aging on appointment from Governor Preston Smith, on the board of the Houston Housing Development Corp., chairman of the Democratic Senatorial Dist. 15 from 1968 to 1972, served as precinct chairman and a member of the Harris Co. Democratic Executive Committee for 28 years.

Bill is a Mason and has been active in the Riverside Methodist Church for many years. His hobbies include fishing, gardening, genealogy, and dancing. Bill's early folk dancing advanced to the rumba and conga after he handled a large insurance account for the Fred Astaire Dance Studios.

Bill's line of descent: Bartholomew, John, Richard, John III, Richard II, Lorenzo Dow, William James, and Julian D. Vawter.

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 _____

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CORRECTIONS & ADDITIONS

From: Wilma P. Krieg, Shelbina, MO 63468

On Page 25 of the VVV Cookbook II a line was left out of the 'Baked Bean' recipe. "Bake in moderate oven 350 degrees for 30 minutes".

From: Elizabeth Hines Czompo, 1025 - 11th Street, Huntington, W. VA. 25701

In the last issue (Fall 1985) on page 5 child #8 Matilda Ellen m. Wm Farrier, NOT Farnier. Also, on page #5 child #13 George who m. Eliza L. Gwinn, please correct the children to read: 1. Josephine, 2. Robert. Josephine is the mother of Elizabeth Hines Czompo. Mrs Czompo says the old VAWTER home mentioned was on the VAWTER farm of 1000 acres during the Civil War days. From time to time some land was sold. From 1799 until sometime in the 1940's it was VAWTER land (ca 150 yrs.). She says, "I spent many happy summers with grandparents on Hans Creek in W. VA.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP! Will all of you while addressing Christmas cards make a list of all VVV relations of any name and send the name and addresses to: Beth Sabel, 931 SE 33rd, Portland, OR 97214 for our new VVV Directory? Also, send VVV's from phone books.

Glenda Grein, 2210 Lema Ct., Indianapolis IN 46229 writes that when visiting a used book store recently she saw a book she thought one of our members might find of interest - The Vawter Family in America, by Grace Vawter Bicknell. The asking price is \$47.50 and the condition is good. The address of the book store is: Capitol Bookstore, 11802 E. Washington Street, Cumberland, IN 46229.

Wordna Wicker, P. O. Box 360, Pontotoc, MS 38863 - Would someone who took a picture of Ora Wicker and her great grandson, Frederick Cummings, oldest and youngest at the Fredricksburg reunion please supply a copy to Ora Wicker, 611 Magnolia Drive, Tupelo, MS 38801. No member of the family managed to take one.

Ralph E. Fall, former rector of the VAUTER Church has written two books: The Diary of Robert Rose (early rector of the VAUTER Church) into its second printing, costing \$15.00 and Hidden Village - The Story Of Port Royal Virginia (settled in 1651 with genealogy and historical material) costing \$20.00. You may order from The Rev. Ralph E. Fall, 2320 Nunnally Ave., Richmond, VA 23230. Also, you may order a tape costing \$5.00 of his talk at the VW reunion bus trip entitled "The History of Vauter' s Church".

The 1986 VVV reunion will take place August 1-2-3 at Tupelo, MS at the Ramada Inn. More information will be given in the next issue of the newsletter.

The Volume II of the VVV Vital Vittles (cookbook) may be ordered for \$6.00 from Beth Sabel, 931 S.E. 33rd, Portland, OR 97214.

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