



FAMILY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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WISH YOU WERE THERE

The tenth annual National VVVFA Reunion is past history with surprising bits of information. The three top states for attendance, Texas, Tennessee & Mississippi, dropped in numbers with Indiana coming out ahead this year. See the back page for state attendance. Also, there wasn't a VVVFA member there with the spelling of Vaughter(s), although there were a few who descend from that branch.

The committee for the reunion, headed by Bonita Welch, did a great job. The Holiday home was a fantastic choice with a beautiful enclosed area, (with plantings) which had various activities in which the children and adults could participate, such as: miniature golf, ping-pong, and the pool and hot tub.

Thursday night

There was a special treat for the early birds (85 in number) from John Taylor of Memphis, TN. His slide presentation of his visit to England, the grounds and remains of Trematon Castle in Cornwall, which was once owned by a Valletort (Vawter) was enjoyed by all. There was browsing through the photo albums, news clippings etc.

Friday 10 a.m.

Invocation by the Rev. John H. Vawter of Texas and a welcome by the mayor, Honorable Robert N. Stewart. He made the remark that Columbus came fourth after Los Angeles, Chicago and New York for best in Architecture. The city was laid out in 1821.

Reports were given by the officers.

Because the VVVFA paid out more than it received this past year 1986-87 and had to make use of the previous years balance, a motion was made and carried that the dues be raised to \$7.00 per year beginning January 1, 1988. All who attended the reunion renewed their membership for \$5.00 and you may also if paid before January 1, 1988.

There were 24 people at the 10 a.m. meeting who were attending a VVVFA reunion for the first time.

Speaking for the morning was Beth Melton who spoke on "Once Upon A Time". The history of how the VVVFA began to be a family (following are excerpts of her talk)

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"There once was a man named JOHN VAWTER who lived in N.C. By his first wife he had three sons, James, Richard and John Jr.

It seems that the descendants of JAMES lived in Georgia, Texas and Oklahoma and came to spell their name VAUGHTER.

And, the descendants of RICHARD lived in Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, and Texas and continued the VAWTER spelling.

And, the descendants of JOHN JR. lived in Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, and Oklahoma spelled their name VAWTER, VAUGHTER, VAUTER, VOTTER, VATTER & VOTERS, but eventually they settled for VAWTER.

Some years back, the descendants of James Vaughter began to meet periodically at Lake Murray Lodge in Ardmore, Oklahoma for family reunions. In July of 1977 they were joined by descendants of Richard & John Jr. for a get-acquainted "encounter". Fifty five cousins, in-laws, and guests attended.

The FIRST nation-wide VVV reunion was held in 1978. Although it was called a reunion, many came who had not ever met before and some were not even known about! (Beth then spoke about each of the past reunions)

By coming together, we have learned many things; that VVV family members are talented in many ways. We have many professions such as: ministers, teachers, nurses, lawyers, computer specialists, engineers, accountants, writers, artists, actors, and many others.

Our first newsletter was written by Wordna Wicker which went out to 50 households in six states. By 1981 it went out to 250 households in 37 states plus Mexico, Canada, Belgium, Hawaii, and Saudi Arabia. In the fall of 1982, the newsletter was written by Esther Vawter and given to the Circulating Editor, Beth Sabel to photo copy and mail out to almost 500 households in 40 states plus the international members.

Why go to all the trouble with newsletters, mailouts, directories, etc. The answer is: "Reunions help us learn more about ourselves, and can be a great time for healing."

Heard at the last reunion in Mississippi from a new member, Jerry Spears, 'I never had so much fun with a group of total strangers.'

Recently in Dallas, Texas the mayor declared August 7-9 to be Family Reunion Week, saying families need to promote family unity, bridge the generation gap and celebrate their heritage.

And that is just what we have been doing at the VVV Family Reunions for the past 10 years."

Friday 1 p.m.

Two bus loads made a tour of Columbus starting with the Visitor's Center, which at one time was the home of John Vawter Story, who was the grandson of John Vawter, a founder of Vernon, IN.

The buses made stops at buildings of important architecture and ended at Mill Race Park where all enjoyed a catered picnic and rides around the park in two horse drawn carriages.

Friday 7 p.m.

All met in the banquet room for the evening meeting. Dr. Lynn Rogers of Jamestown, Ohio was the speaker.

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Dr. Lynn Rogers is a sixth generation Hoosier. He was born in 1936 and raised on a farm near Madison, IN. He graduated, in a class of 34, from Central High School in 1954 and went on to earn a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Purdue in 1958.

In 1961 he took a position in Dayton, Ohio as a civilian working for the U.S. Air Force in Research & Development. He earned a Master and a Doctorate in Engineering from Ohio State University. He is an internationally known expert in the field of vibration damping, working on both aircraft and spacecraft structures.

He married Wanda Lindsay, and they had three children; in 1983 he was widowed. In 1984 he and Darlene were married and live in Jamestown, Ohio.

JESSE VAUTERS MIGRATION

(Along with his talk, Dr. Rogers used slides of his trip taking the same course used by Jesse Vawter from Forks of Elkhorn to Madison, Indiana)

Jesse Vawter was born in 1755 in Virginia. In 1790 he moved to land (leased from Hugh Shannon) in Woodford (now Scott) Co., KY. In 1795 he moved to Woodford (now Franklin) Co. Ky. (about four miles from former lease) to land he purchased on the North Elkhorn Creek, three miles from the two forks of Elkhorn and seven miles from Frankfort.

In July 1805 Jesse Vawter with others of Kentucky visited land on Hogan and Laughery Creeks near Aurora, IN, but on sending money to the Cincinnati Land Office, learned the tract they wanted had already been sold.

In August 1805, William Harrison purchased a large body of Indiana land taking in the counties of Ripley, Jefferson, Scott, Washington, nearly all of Jennings and Jackson and parts of Clark and Floyd.

In December of 1805 Jesse Vawter with six or eight others visited the "New Purchase." Part of the group traveled by land and part by water. Those going by water included Jesse Vawter who descended the Kentucky and Ohio Rivers in a pirogue (large Indian canoe) to the present site of Madison, Indiana.

The group made their headquarters at the eastern edge of Madison. During the daytime, the group divided into two parties, exploring the adjacent highlands and the neighboring lands of Clifty. At night they reported on their discoveries.

Jesse Vawter selected the site for his residence on top of the Michigan Hill. He returned home and made arrangements for taking possession. The family moved in on September of 1806 and he called his home "Mt. Glad."

* * * * *

Following this, attention was called to the table full of around 50 craft and gift items to be given out by drawing registration numbers. Around 25 names were drawn.

Sally & Duncan Brown of OK played a cassette tape, given to them by E., B. Vaughters of Seattle WA., of madrigal singers singing music written by Thomas Vautor 1619/20 (see last issue)

Saturday 11 a.m.

All met together for an auto caravan to Nashville, IN where artist, illustrator, Will Vawter most of his adult life. As a young boy he was a neighbor of the Hoosier poet, James Whitcomb Riley. Mr. Riley recognized and encouraged his artistic ability and later Vawter illustrated many of Riley's books of poetry.

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The first stop was at the Brown County Art Gallery where the VVVFA members had been invited for a reception. The gallery had collected a group of eight to ten of Will Vawter's paintings which were displayed in a special exhibit room. All were served Sassafras tea, cookies, fried biscuits with apple butter. The Brown Art Gallery Association was organized on September 3, 1926 at the home of Will Vawter.

From here everyone was on their own to visit the many shops of handcrafters, such as: hand made musical instruments, carved canes, basketry, ceramics and pottery, handmade fabrics, blown glass, primitive furniture, copper and brass items, clocks and many displays of art work.

Banquet 6:30 p.m.

It was announced that there were 136 from 21 states plus one from Canada registered for the reunion.

It was announced that the oldest member present was Ted Vawter of CO.

It was announced that the youngest member present was Jake DeFurr, age 14 months.

It was announced that Beth Sabel came the longest distance: Portland, OR.

Roll call of the states -See the states listed on the back page .

Fred & Wordna Wicker, Bill & Sally Vawter and Hazel McCandless have attended all 10 of the VVVFA Reunions.

Election of officers for 1987/88 - same slate as last year.

A new committee appointed this year: Audit Committee - Jim De Furr, Pete Vawter, and Mary Vawter.

Invitation to the 1988 reunion was given by Charles Burt of Dawsonville, GA. The eleventh annual nation wide VVVFA reunion will be August 5, 6, & 7 (with "early birds" arriving on the 4th) in Gainesville, GA at the Holiday Inn. More data in future newsletter.

The remaining gifts were drawn after which Wordna Wicker presented a Memorial service, with granddaughter Margaret Wicker placing carnations in a vase for each person named. The names were as follows:

1. Rachel Alta Hill Vawter died 25 Sept. 1986 in Nacogdoches, TX at age 76. She was the mother of the Rev. John H. Vawter.
2. Ethel Vawter Stow died 25 Sept. 1986 in OK City at age 87. She was the sister of Silas Vawter and daughter of John Wesley Vawter.
3. Woodford C. Vawter died 27 Oct. 1986 in Ponca City, OX at age 85. He was the son Fred & Nella Vawter and was of the tribe of Russell Vawter.
4. Mrs. Jessie D. Bullard died 15 Dec. 1986 in Seymore, IN at age 100. She was the daughter of Ezra & Mattie Holsclau (p. 139 Bicknell).
5. Mrs. Irene Vawter died 6 Feb. 1987 at North Bend, OR at age 85. She was the widow of the late Arthur Vawter and was the sister-in-law of Ted Vawter of CO.
6. The Rev. Bruce Vawter, Catholic priest and faculty member of De Paul University died 1 Dec. 1986 in Chicago, IL at age 65. He was the son of Bruce & Gertrude McFadden Vawter.
7. Theresa O'Brien Vawter, widow of Jamison Vawter, died 5 Jan. 1987 in Scotts, MI. Her husband, who died in 1959, was the brother of Father Bruce Vawter (above).
8. David L. Vawter, age 37, of North Vernon, IN was killed in an auto accident on May 1, 1987. He was the uncle of young Joe Vawter who met us at the 1982 reunion in Indiana.

9. Orville Vawter of Rogers, AR died 20 Dec. 1986. He was the uncle of Vernon Vawter of AR.
10. Mrs. Helen Vawter, wife of John Vawter Of Indianapolis, died 25 Nov. 1986. Her husband was of the line of Jesse Vawter.
11. Michael Grippa died 25 Jan. 1987 in Denver at age 66. He is survived by his widow, Lorene who was our exchange editor 1982-83. He was the son-in-law of Lydia & Ted Vawter.
12. Gladys Hugo died 21 Jan. 1987 in Placerville, CA at age 60. She was the daughter of Lydia Vawter and sister of Lorene Grippa.
13. Elbert Henry Burt died 15 Jan. 1987 in Gainsville, GA. He was married to Anne Vaughters 28 August 1927. He was the father of Charles Burt of GA.
14. Jesse Vawter Stribling died June 1987 in Humphreys Co., TN. He was the son of John Malcolm Stribling (p. 225 Bicknell). He was the second cousin of both Jim Corbitt and John Taylor.
15. Ina Cove Vawter died 23 April 1987 in Indianapolis, IN age 92. She was the widow of James T. Vawter and the mother of John Vawter.
16. Thomas D. Hudson died 20 April 1987 in Tupelo, MS. He is survived by his widow, Martha (who was present at reunion). He was one of the hosts at last year's reunion in Tupelo, MS.
17. Mark Joseph Nash died 16 Feb. 1987 at Killeen, TX at age 82. He was survived by his widow Bettie Huling Nash, a son, Mark Nash Jr., and daughter Betsy Miller, (He died of Tetanus from a little splinter)
18. Bettie Huling Nash died 8 June 1987 in Killeen, TX. She was married to Mark J. Nash 25 July 1931 in Tocopilla, Chile. Her youngest grandson, Jim Miller, designed the present logo which the VVV Family Association used.

Sunday 9 am.

Forty one people traveled from the Holiday Inn to attend services at the First Baptist Church of North Vernon. Joining them there were Carol and Amy Bloomenstock of Columbus, and Selma Vawter Glassing and Chrissy Woodworth of Greenfield. Many of those attending are descendants of William Frances Vawter, two of the founding members of the church in 1835. Rev. Vawter was the first pastor and served in that capacity for many years. The names of two of their daughters, Elizabeth Vawter Stott and Mary Vawter Feagler, are inscribed on the stained glass windows. A love gift of \$300.00 was given to the church from the Association.

After having lunch together, visits were made to the Vawter cemetery in Selmier State Forest at North Vernon, the Vernon Cemetery, and the Wirt Baptist Church Cemetery.

NEW MEMBERS

Ophie Dodd, 2075 Buford Dam Rd., Buford, GA. 30518.
Connie & Tadd Bugos, 480 E. Pearl Street, Farmington, IL 61331
John & Lois Vawter, 1511 Birch Dr., Elkhart, IN 46514
Virginia Vawter Storr, 119 Bannatyne Dr., Willowdale, Ontario M212P5
Gordon F. Vawter, 37 Alban Rd., Waban, MA 02168
Judy & Dick Morrissett Jr., 24730 Marshall, Dearborn, MI 48124
Richard & Helen Morrissett, 1518 Westbury Dr., Davison, MI 48423
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Rogers, P. O. Box 1, Canaan, IN 47224
Marie Disharoon, Rt. 3, Dawsonville, GA 30534

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

All Directory changes are to be mailed to Beth Melton, 1211 Casa Vale, Dallas, TX 75218 - A Directory can be ordered from Beth Melton for \$6.00 plus 1.00 for postage and handling. Make check payable to VVV Family Association.

Volumes I & II of the Vawter Vital Vittles Cookbook will now be ordered from Bonita Welch, R. R. #1, Box 227, Scipio, IN 47273 at a cost of \$6.00 each. Make check payable to VVV Family Association.

An index can be ordered for the newsletter. Please order from Beth Sabel, 931 S.E. 33rd, Portland, OR. No price set as yet because it depends on the number of pages.

Send all newsletter address changes to Beth Sabel.

Hazel Robinson Maniscalco of New Orleans wishes to announce the birth of her new granddaughter, Heather Camille Lopez, tipping the scales at 9 lbs. 12 oz. and 21" long. She is the first child of Ricky & Donna Lopez, Chalmette, LA.

Rose S. Monroe of Louisville, KY was installed as Regent of Fincastle Chapter ASDAR on June 11, 1987

Randy Howard, son of Beth Melton, has graduated from Cal. Tec. at San Luis Obispo in Architectural Engineering with a major in Solar Energy, in the upper 10% of class. He is now employed by a Daly Engineering firm and living in San Francisco, CA.

Andrew Robert Vawter. was born June 1, 1987 weighing 6 lbs. 13 oz. and 19" long. Parents are Janet & Robert (Bobby)L. Vawter who live at Memphis, TN. They have two daughters, Wendy 9 and Kaelyn 2. Grandparents are Robert & Norma Vawter of Milan, TN.

It has come to my attention that Mrs. Ann Martin Harpole, 3689 Peakwood Dr., Roanoke, VA 24014 has proven her ancestor Samuel Vawter is a DAR Patriot. She is from the line of Bartholomew, John, Edward. and Samuel. Genealogy p. 4, Vol. 9 #1.

THE TRAVELING BYLERS

Roger was a delegate in March to the Texas State SAR meeting, in Kenville, Texas. Shirley was a delegate in May to the Texas State DAR meeting in Houston, Texas. Both were messengers in June to the Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis, MO.

Both went to the Missouri State Library for research. Roger found a new ancestor in the U.S. and two new ones in England. Roger gave the library a copy of each of his three books and Shirley gave a copy of her book.

They went on to Boonville for a family reunion of Roger's people and on the way stopped to preach at his home church in Prairie Home, MO.

They went on to Bolivar, MO stopping at the Southwest Baptist University, their first college Alma Mater, and presented them with copies of their books.

SHIRLEY'S "VAWTER" BOOK

Name - The Family of Albert & Josie Vawter. It is divided into two sections. Section 1 deals with the descendants of Albert Vawter, son of John Taylor Vawter. Section II pages 234 thru 522 deals with the early Virginia families connected to the Vawters, such as: Noel, Page, Gibs, Stokley, Vallott, Towles, Rucker, Hodgson, etc. From these on down to Jesse Vawter & Elizabeth Watts and Philemon Vawter & Anna Vawter, Price \$40.00 plus \$2.50 for postage & handling, to Shirley Byler,. Rt. 1 Box 319, Sweeny, Tx 77480

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The names of those on the register attending the VVVFA Reunion - 1987 -Columbus, Indiana with the state of Indiana coming in the highest in attendance.

ARIZONA

Louis & Bobbi Meek

ARKANSAS

Alma Vawter Allen
Lester D. Vawter
Vernon & Trudy Vawter

CALIFORNIA

Jack & Evelyn Stoltz
Esther Vawter
Glenn & Marjorie Vawter

COLORADO

Margaret Grippa
Ted & Lydia Vawter

DELAWARE

Bobbee & Donna Vawter

GEORGIA

Charles, Betty & Chuck Burt
Alice Disharoon
Marie Disharoon
Ophie Dodd

ILLINOIS

Shirley Beasley
Connie & Tadd Bugos
Wilma Schaomire
Donald & Alice Vawter
Harry & Edith Vawter
Lowell Vawter
M. Glenn & May Vawter

INDIANA

Florence Beeman
Janice Vawter Bridges, Jennifer & Julie
Ann Reynolds Caslan

Tom & Ada Clarkson

Joni Curtis
Helen Jones
Mary & John McDaniel
Josephine Parker
James, Jane & Ethan Reynolds
Walter & Edna Reynolds
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Rogers
Richard & Marjorie Roseberry
Christine Vawter
Dewey & Jeanette Vawter
Pat Vawter
Tina Waymire
Bonita Welch
Darren Welch & Kristina Swenson
David & Peggy Welch, David, Jr.
Tony Welch

IOWA

Sara Hockmuth
Elsie Trittip

KENTUCKY

Rose Monroe

MASSACHUSETTS

Gordon F. Vawter

MICHIGAN

Patricia Vawter Klein
Dick & Judy Morrissett
Richard & Helen Morrissett

MEMBERSHIP DUES \$7.00 PER YEAR - DUE AND PAYABLE IN AUGUST TO: VVVFA ASSOCIATION Mail to: Hazel McCandless, Box 366, Cushing, Texas 75760

NAME _____ NEW _____ RENEWAL _____

STREET ADDRESS _____ DATE _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

(give your VVV line on back if you haven't done so already)

Phone _____

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MISSISSIPPI

Martha Hudson
Emery & Clarice Mayer
Mary Wicker Reese
Fred & Wordna Wicker
Ken & Norma Wicker
Margaret Wicker

MISSOURI

Dorothy Ford
Bruce & Linda Vawter
Jim & Pat Vawter
Marvin Vawter

NORTH CAROLINA

Alan Welch

OHIO

Richard & Rosalie Carter
Bernard & Edna Furnish
Willard & Lucille Keir
John & Bernice Mendenhall
Lynn & Darlene Rogers

OKLAHOMA

Duncan & Sally Brown
Bill & Dorthy Vawter
Oscar & Erma Vawter

OREGON

Beth Sabel

TENNESSEE

Jim & Alliene Corbitt
Jim, Barbara, Emily & Jack DeFurr
John & Hazel Taylor
Pete & Norma Vawter
Wendy Vawter

TEXAS

Juanita Baker
Matthew Byler
Roger & Shirley Byler
Edith Corley
Beverly Cowen
Mark & Kathy Disharoon
Beth Melton
Hazel McCandless
Louise Vanover
Bill & Sally Vawter
John & Sue Vawter

WISCONSIN

Evert & Maxine Joling

ONTARIO CANADA

Virginia Vawter Storr

* * * * *

QUERY

From Patricia Vawter Klein, 2236 Crest Or., Kalamazoo, MI. 49008

"I am the dau. of Jamison Vawter, Jr., son of Jamison Vawter & Sallie Snyder Vawter, and would like to locate my first cousin, Delia Vivan Vawter Rappley, dau. of Virginia Vawter (dau. of Jamison Vawter) Paden & Sam Paden. Virginia died in CA. around 1950 and her daughter Delia Vivian lived in Houghton, MI. for many years. Delia Vivian & Douglas Rappley had one son and one daughter. I do not know their whereabouts. I would be interested in contacting either Delia Vivian or her father, Sam Paden. I think the son or dau. settled in CA and that Delia Vivian might be living with one of them. Delia would probably be about 66 years of age by now.

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