



FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Spring 1985 Volume 9 #3

FAMILY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Robert L. (Bobbee) Vawter, Box 100, Mayview Rd., Middletown, DE 19709

TREASURER: Hazel Vawter McCandless Box 366, Cushing, TX 75218

NEWS EDITOR: Esther H. Vawter, 1713 Merkley Ave., W. Sacramento, CA 95691

VAWTER MONUMENT

From: The Indianapolis Star, 2 October 1984 & The Franklin Evening Star - 1904

The JOHN T. VAWTER Civil War memorial, located in the courthouse square in Franklin, Indiana has been restored and is in working order after nearly 30 years of neglect.

Franklin Star 1904- "The proposition was made by Commodore JOHN T. VAWTER, was favorably received, but wasn't given the kind of support needed most - financial. With a donation of \$5000 by Mr. Vawter, the monument will begin.

The fountain is to be of granite with a sixteen foot base and twenty feet, six inches in height. On the four sides of the monument drinking basins will be placed, each fed by water emerging from a Lion's head in base relief. Each basin will be approached by three steps and the top step serving as a summit for the base, will be beautiful Venetian mosaic. Upon the side of the monument facing Jefferson street will be a bronze tablet, on which will be inscribed the following:

"In commemoration of the valorous soldiers of Johnson county who fought for the preservation of the Union, 1860-65. Presented by JOHN T. VAWTER."

The tablet will also contain a likeness of Mr. Vawter. At the top of the tablet and carved out of stone is an eagle in full relief, with wings spread, ready for flight. A bronze sentry with musket at "carry" and with eyes shaded with his right hand, surmounts the monument.

Indianapolis Star 1984- By Joseph R. Konz, Indianapolis Star Metro editor. The designer of the memorial was Bruno Schmitz, the architect who designed the Soldier's and Sailor's Monument in Monument Circle, Indianapolis, in 1902.

Bronze-crossed muskets had been stolen from the northside of the monument, but these were returned to Franklin Heritage, Inc., headed by Chris F. Hext, after an article appeared in the local paper. The Heritage organization had a replica made of the muskets which were placed below the lion's head facing north. The original set to be presented to the county commissioners for permanent display in the courthouse.

Now Heritage, Inc. is in search of other relics originally on the monument: viz. sabres, ramrods, powderhorns. If these can be located, replicas of them will also be made and returned to their original places on the monument.

(Several contacts have been made seeking persons who could identify this JOHN T. VAWTER, to no avail. However, Bicknell, Pp 54/5 writes of a JOHN TERRELL VAWTER, b. 15 Jan. 1830, son of SMITH VAWTER & JANE TERRELL. Bicknell describes him as having been a resident of Franklin for about 60 years and a prominent businessman.)

EIGHTH ANNUAL VVVFA REUNION - 1985

Fredericksburg, Virginia is the location - selection of meeting place is the Howard Johnson Motel located at the Junction of Route 1 and I 95 South.

For reservations call 703-898-1800 and ask for Carolyn Cole being sure to mention the VAWTER reunion. If you have a common Vawter first name such as: John or Robert, give your middle name. Reservations need to be in by May as this motel has 137 rooms and we have 50 of them reserved.

RATES: \$22.00 for single - \$27.00 for double

The reunion committee of Bobbee Vawter (Pres.) and James H. Vawter of Virginia are to be commended on the choice of location and price arrangements.

As we did five years ago, the VVVFA would like to give a "love gift" for the VAUTER church. The donation at that time amounted to \$1,800.00. Let us be as generous or give more this reunion year to the church for its upkeep. It has served to perpetuate the VVV identity and history. Mail donations to treasurer, Hazel Vawter McCandless, Box 366, Cushing, TX 75218.

The gifts of handcraft from various members for door prizes was so successful last year we will do it again this year, but the time of drawing different.

Be sure and plan to stay over for the Sunday morning worship service in the VAUTER church. The Rev. Donald Place is looking forward to our visit.

NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. Harry C. Dunlap, 5502 Cedar Croft Street, Richmond, VA 23228

Lee Eugene King 7726 Horse Pistol, Von Ormy, Texas 78073

Mrs. Charles Czompo, 1025 Eleventh Street, Huntington, W.V. 25701

Vonda Mae Lusk, 1313 N.W. 84th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73114 (descends from Rev. James Wesley Vawter, born in MS 1869 and on back to John Vawter IV)

James D. Richardson, 809 Juliet Ave., Memphis, TN 38127 (descends from James Wesley Richardson, Mary Jane Allen, Melinda Vaughter/Vawter to John Vawter IV)

MEMBER PROFILE

James H. Vawter - member of the 1985 reunion committee, Rt. #1, Box 293, Kinsale, Virginia 22488.

James Vawter was born 28 July 1913 in Marion, N. Carolina. On 19 June 1938 he married Mary Evelyn Cissel. They have two grown children, Jean and Ralph. He is a graduate from the University of Maryland.

During WW II he was a Lieutenant (USNR) in the Navy and took part in the Normandy invasion. For 34 years he was a Marketing Representative for Exxon Company, retired 1 May 1975. He is a Trustee in the Carmel United Methodist Church. His hobbies are stamp collecting and fishing.

He descends from the VAUTER Church builder. His parents are James Samuel Vawter & Mary Sophie Pile; grandparents, John Wm. Vawter & Elizabeth Dew Kean; great grandparents, John Henderson Vawter & Clara S. Peck.

From: E. B. Vaughters, 12015 1st Ave. N.W., Seattle, WA 98177

The Generations -

BARTHOLOMEW VAWTER (ca. 1660/65-1717) -ALONZO J. VAWTER (1850-1934)

1. BARTHOLOMEW VAWTER (ea. 1660/65-1717)

Bartholomew/Winifred Hodgson) born in England ca. 1660 immigrated to old Rappahannock County now Essex County, VA ca. 1675. Bartholomew became a prominent planter and left a large plantation at his death. Winifred Hodgson, his wife, was the daughter of Wm. Hodgson. a prominent planter and merchant of old Rappahannock County. Their children were, John. Margaret. William, David, Edward and BENJAMIN VAWTER.

2. BENJAMIN VAWTER (ca. 1700-1736)

Benjamin Vawter, youngest son of Bartholomew/Winifred, born ca. 1700, was a teenager at the time of his father's death in 1717. He was a sub-sheriff and collector of tithables in St. Ann's parish in 1732. He died in 1736, perhaps suddenly as he didn't leave a last-will, but the inventory of his estate is filed in Essex Co., VA. His wife is not known. So far as is known, it seems he had only two children: Elizabeth and RICHARD VAWTER.

3. RICHARD VAWTER (ca 1732-1799)

Richard Vawter, born ca. 1732, died in Essex County, VA. where his will was probated 21 Jan. 1799. Being just a tyke at the time of his father's death, it is thought he was raised in the household of his father's brother, Edward Vawter, as they were close in later life and Edward named Richard's son (Edward) his god-son in his will and bequeathed him a sum for education. Richard's wife is not known. The children named in Richard's will are, Richard, EDWARD, grandsons Allamanser and Irum, a son James Vawter and grandchildren, James Mark and Polly Anton, daughters Margaret, Mary and Frankee and a son Benjamin Vawter to whom he left the plantation and instructions to look after the three girls.

4. EDWARD VAWTER (ca. 1764 ca. 1830)

Edward Vawter, born ca. 1764, not much has been learned about him. His wife is unknown. The 1810 census of Essex County lists him head of household with males, 2 under 10 yrs., 1-10/16, 1-16/26 and 1-45 or over and females, 1 under 10 Yrs , 1 10/16 and 3 over 45 yrs. and one slave. He was still living in the 1830 census age 60-70. One of his sons was named Benjamin and the two older boys are mentioned in his father's will as Allamanser and IRUM (Hirum).

5. HIRUM ('Irum) VAWTER (1795-after 1860)

Hirum ('Irum) was born in Essex County, VA 1795. He married Mary (Polly) Good, daughter of Daniel and Betsy Good in Madison County, VA 27 Feb. 1815. The marriage record shows his name as Irum Vawter but the 1820 census and all subsequent recordings of him name is Hirum. They moved to Boone County, Ky by the 1830 census and were in Grant Co., KY through 1860. He was a miller and had a large family of five boys and five girls. A son John Wesley Vawter was born 4 May 1822 in Madison Co., VA before they moved to Kentucky.

6. JOHN WESLEY VAWTER (1822-1887)

John W. Vawter, born 4 May 1822, married Rachael Ann Kennady 1849. To this union was born Alonzo J. Vawter, 1 Nov. 1850. Nothing is known of Rachael's family except she had a brother, Joseph W. Kennady. They moved to Lucas Co., Iowa and it is there that Rachael died. John W. Vawter married 2nd 10 April 1857 to Emily Jane Wheeler and they had a large family. John W. Vawter died Oakly, Lucas Co., Iowa 15 Mar. 1887.

7. ALONZO J. VAWTER (1850-1934)

Alonzo J. Vawter, born Grant Co., KY 1 Nov. 1850, died Dodge City, Ford Co., Kansas 13 March 1934. Married 11 Aug. 1872 to Mary Frances Horner, b. 24 Feb., d. 5 Apr. 1930. To this union was born: Rachel Ellen, Lucy Jane, Dora Viola, Wm. Albert, Laura Mabel.

CLARIFICATION

I wish to clarify the date of 1698 for the marriage of BARTHOLOMEW VAWTER & WINIFRED HODGSON. In the book Index to Marriages of Old Rappahannock County and Essex County, Virginia by Eva Eubanks Wilkerson you will find the year only of 1698 given.

To understand her index you must read the FORWARD. In it she explains that where no month or day is given, the date only refers to the date of a document or record in which evidence of a marriage is indicated and not the date of the marriage. (At first I picked up this date in error also.)

(Note: The year 1698 on page 240 of the above book must have been in error because on page 133 as a cross reference she gives the date as 1696 giving the same source. In deed book #9, P. 54 is a record of Bartholomew Vawter and his wife Winifred Hodgson who deeded property 9 Nov. 1696.

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REMINISCING

From: Paul E. Vawter, Sr. - 3801 Mission Hill Road, Northbrook, IL 60062

One time when a small pox epidemic hit Hampton, each home affected was posted with a sign, "Small pox - Keep out". The town health officer issued a decree prohibiting any public meetings. This meant no church services of any kind since they would be considered a public gathering. Nothing in the order mentioned home gatherings. Papa was the student pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Hampton, N.J. while studying for his B.D. degree at Drew Theological Seminary in Madison, N.J.

Now papa had a strong aversion to pool rooms. The local pool room was usually crowded with people drinking. He felt the people in the pool room comprised a public gathering. And why was this permitted but not a religious gathering? Wouldn't the pool room gathering be more likely to spread the disease than a church gathering?

So he spread the word among the parishioners that the regular Thursday night prayer meeting would be held in the parsonage. Come Thursday night he rang the church bell as a reminder.

This brought the town marshal, a rather slight man as I recall. Papa came out on the porch and expressed his objection to the apparent discrimination between the church and pool room. I stood inside the front door and became alarmed that papa would be taken to jail. Between my crying and the marshal, papa was going back and forth, first to quiet me and then to the marshal. He had his hands full.

When the marshal made a move toward papa, as if to arrest him, papa warned him that if he, the marshal, so much as put his foot on the porch, he would knock him down. Since papa was six feet tall and a former college wrestler I'm sure he would have done that. I know now that he would have been within his rights since even the town marshal had no right to enter our home without a warrant. The marshal left and nothing more was heard from him. The prayer meeting was held. Papa had strong convictions and was prepared to back them up.

Line of descent: John, John, David, Jesse, William, Jesse R., Jesse Philemon.

(Paul Vawter, Sr. is in the process of composing random reminisces as they occur to him to pass on to his children and grandchildren. I encourage all of you to do the same - and in the process, mail me some of them for the VVVFA Newsletter.)

GLEANINGS

From: Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution by John H. Gwathney - p 793

VAUGHTER, William, Sgt. 1 VA. State Reg. Feb., 1777; Ensign Dec. 7, 1778; 2nd Lieut. June 1, 1779; retired Jan. 1, 1780; also spelled Vawter. Died in Boone County, KY. Nov. 27, 1823; children named. Awarded 2,666 acres.

VAUGHTERS, Beverly (Vauters) 10 CL

VAUTER, Bart 7 CL

VAUTER, Bartholomew, 3 and 7 CL

VAUTERS, David, 1 VA State Reg.

VAWTER, Benjamin, 2 VA State Reg.

VAWTER, Herman of Orange,

VAWTER, Richard inf., nbl.

VAWTERS, John, Inf., nbl

(Some were repeated with different spellings)

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Submitted and written by Irene Taylor Day, Luray, Kansas 67649

A true episode in the courtship of Alonzo J. Vawter & Mary Frances Horner.

E'en young, gramp was an upright man Who couldn't stand a liar, Convinced they'd spend Eternity With Satan and his fire. Now Grandma, a mischievous lass In youth a trifle foolish, She was in love with Grandpa But she thought he was, well, mulish. E'en then Grandmother "played it cool" She didn't let gramp guess He was her choice of many Tho she did at last confess, When he got downright persistent That "she'd marry in the spring" And she "liked him best of any of the Others on her string". Grandpa got a bit swell-headed He sorta bragged of this and that And as the conversation gentled Said "he loved her stylish hat Tho more he loved the head stuck in it And the hair of shining red."	With no thought of trepidation, "I plan to have it cut", Gram said. Horrified Gramp really was, Gram thought he was contrary When he almost shouted, why if you did THAT I'd never wed you, Mary!" Now Gramp thought Gram was wise and smart, No fool, tho pert and saucy, Gram knew she didn't care for him To talk so loud and bossy. Off came the red-gold tresses, Gram swore she liked it fine, With great aplomb she waited for The day Gramp came to dine. I'll never know what happened for they've both been called up Higher. I'd guess Gramp learned a lesson though 'Cause Gram made him out a liar. Of course Gramp would know better, or Gram, the little minx Before they married, proved to him Man shouldn't speak - until he thinks!
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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

Fred & Wordna Wicker are the proud grandparents of Frederick, born 3 December 1984 in Durham, N. Carolina to Ellen & Roger.

The January/ February Newsletter of the National Genealogical Society states that at their Christmas luncheon an award was presented to Mary Wunningham of Maryland for her work in the library loan and home study programs and as coordinator of volunteers for the Washington area.

Beth Sabel, 931 S.E. 33rd, Portland, OR 97214 expects to have an index of the first 19 issues of the VVVFA Newsletter ready by August. Please let her know if you are interested in a copy so we will know how many to print. We won't know the cost until we know how many to print. Mail her a post-card if you are interested.

The second volume of the VVV Vitals Vittles (cookbook) is being put together for the printer. There are a few copies of volume I left. Cost \$5.00 to Beth Sabel.

A reprint of The Vawter Family in America by Grace (Vawter) Bicknell can be ordered from Mrs. Walter Reynolds, R. Rt. #1, Butlerville, IN 47223. Price \$6.00.

Carolyn Vaughter, VVVFA member has written a historical novel West Wind Wild. It begins with the Oklahoma Land Run. A copy (pocket book) can be ordered from Bill Vawter, 3019 Conway St., Houston, TX 77025 with a check for \$4.00 made out to Carolyn Vaughter.

Ralph E. Fall, a former minister of the VAUTER Church, and a speaker for the 1985 reunion, has written two books: The Diary of Robert Rose (early minister of the VAUTER Church) costing \$15.00 and Hidden Village - The Story of Port Royal, Virginia costing \$20.00. You may order from The Rev. Ralph E. Fall, 7308 Three Chopt Road, Richmond, Virginia.

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From: Beth Sabel, 931 S.E. 33rd, Portland, OR 97214

AN ANCESTOR?

A badly bruised knight returned to his castle after a hard battle. He was a mess.! His armor was dented, his helmet was askew, his face was bloody, his horse was limping, and the knight was listing to one side in his saddle.

The lord of the castle saw him coming and went out to meet him, asking "What hath befallen you, Sir Knight?"

Straightening himself out as best he could he replied, "Oh, sire, I have been laboring dutifully in your service, pillaging all your enemies to the west.,,

"You've been WHAT?" cried the startled nobleman. "I haven't any enemies to the West!" "Oh", said the knight, and then, after a pause, "Well you do now".

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