



**FAMILY ASSOCIATION**

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 1982

Issue No. 17

**FAMILY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS:**

**PRESIDENT:** Robert M. (Pete) Vawter, 509 Oaklawn, Milan, TN 38358  
**V.P.:** Robert L. (Bobbee) Vawter, Box 100, Bayview Rd., Middleton, DE 19709  
**SECRETARY:** Beth Melton, 1211 Casa Vale, Dallas, TX 75218  
**TREASURER:** Hazel (Vawter) McCandless, Box 366, Cushing, TX 75760  
**HISTORIAN/ARCHIVIST:** Jim Vaughters, 5981 S. Lima St., Englewood, CO 80111  
**NEWS EDITOR:** Esther M. Vawter, 1713 Merkley Avenue, W. Sacramento, CA 95691  
**ASSOCIATE EDITOR:** A. Lucille Keir, 119 W. Dunedin Rd., Columbus, OH 43214  
**CIRCULATION EDITOR:** Beth Sabel, 931 SE 33rd, Portland, OR 97214  
**EXCHANGE EDITOR:** Lorene Grippa, 4701 Meade St., Denver, CO 80211

This issue is an introduction to the 1982-83 officers using the form I'll call "Profile". I will also have a "Profile" of members from time to time.

**PRESIDENT:** Robert M. Vawter - Call him "Pete"

Over 40 - Born in TN - Served in the U.S. Marine Corp. during WW II - Is an accountant - married to the former Norma Lowery of Milan, TN - Two children: Bobby Vawter & Barbara V. De Fur - One grandchild, Wendy Vawter. Hobbies: Fishing & Genealogy. Descend from Thomas the son of Edward the church builder.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Robert L. Vawter - Call him "Bobbee"

Over 40 - Born in Howard Co., MD the sixth of seven children. Lived and married Donna Bacon in CA - Works for Getty Oil Co. - Has been in Refinery Petrochemicals Environmental Operations Design & Supervision since 1961 - Has four children - Does some farming grain, beef cattle and horses - Hobbies: antiques, ham radio, and jumping horses. Descends from Jesse Vawter, William, Jesse R., John S., John B.

**SECRETARY:** Frances Elizabeth (Byler) Melton - Call her "Beth" or "Liz"

Over 40 - Born in Ft. Worth, TX - Has six children - She is 5'4", blonde with hazel eyes - Worked for H&R Block, then her own bookkeeping service in Houston, TX - Moved to Dallas where youngest son began to study law. She merged her business with Joe Melton becoming partners in their "Accounting & Tax Practice." Writes a monthly newsletter for an accountants tax group. Descends from John I, John II, David, Jesse & Philemon, William, John T., Albert C.

**TREASURER:** Hazel Vawter McCandless

Over 40 - Born in TX - Is a widow - has her own insurance agency in Cushing, TX where she is mayor. Has one daughter and a twin brother, Bill Vawter of Houston. Hobbies: Genealogy and football. Descends from Richard Vawter II son of John III.

**HISTORIAN/ARCHIVIST:** James C. Vaughters - Call him "Jim"

Over 40 - Born in TX, Grew up in GA - Has a music and law degree - Was a naval intelligence officer for seven years - Is now a trial lawyer in Denver, CO - Married to Donna Mosher of IL - Has one son, Jonathan who can qualify for NSSAR on both sides - Hobbies: Hunting, genealogy, church choir. Descends from John III, James, Linzy, George, Hiram Solomon Andrew Jackson, Ernest Cleveland.



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NEWS EDITOR: Esther M. (Barker) Vawter

Over 40 - Born in Morton, WA - Married to Virgil D. Vawter - three children - Dale, Lynette, Brian - two grandchildren - Arron & Nicholas Allen, Worked for the State of California as a clerk - 5' 4" - pepper gray hair, blue gray eyes.

Active in church - Hobbies: Genealogy, travel, gardening, reading. Husband descends from John I, John II, David, Jesse & Philemon, William, John T., Albert C., Vernon D.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: - A. Lucille Keir (She has been ill plus illness in the family)

CIRCULATION EDITOR: Frances Elizabeth (Vawter) Sabel- Call her "Beth"

Over 40 - Born Fruita, CO- Is first daughter and fourth child of Vernon Day & Renabelle (Cope) Vawter - Has one child, a son and a grand daughter. The past 18 years has been in the housekeeping Dept. of the Oregon Medical School - Hobbies: Crocheting and sewing - Descends from John I, John II, David, Jesse & Philemon, William, John T., Albert C. Vernon D.

EXCHANGE EDITOR: - Lorene Grippa

#### HISTORY OF OUR VVVFA & REUNION

John Vawter III of Stokes Co., NC and first wife had three sons: James, Richard and John, Jr.

The descendants of James lived in GA, TX, OK, and began to spell their name Vaughter.

The descendants of Richard lived in GA, TN, AL, MS, TX and continued the Vawter spelling.

The descendants of John, Jr. lived in GA, TN, AL, MS, OK used various spellings, but settled with Vawter.

Sometime before the 1970's the descendants of James Vaughter met every odd-numbered year and called themselves "The Vaughter Cousins Reunion" and meeting at Lake Murray Lodge, Ardmore, OK.

In 1977 they were joined by the descendants of Richard and John, Jr. The descendants of the second wife of John Vawter, Sr. (III) joined in along with the descendants of Russell, brother of John, Sr. (III).

The following year the descendants of John II and his son David along with the descendants of Edward the builder met with them, thus began the nationwide VVV Family Association. (If anyone can give me additional information and/or corrections on the above, it would be appreciated) The first newsletter was printed Sept. 1977 and went out to 55 households. The 1978 reunion met at Brady Mountain, AR - 1979 at Lake Murray, OK - 1980 at Port Royal, VA (to visit the Vauter Church) - 1981 at Hot Springs, AR and our last one at Clifty Falls near Maddison, IN.

#### OTHER VAWTER REUNIONS

The descendants of William & Mary Vawter have a reunion and have formed "The Vawter - Ravenal Family Association,". They have a newsletter "Vawter Quarterly" published by Willard C. (Bill) Grant, 36244 Canyon Dr., Westland, MI 48185 which was first published in 1978.

From George E. Dunn, 1937 Cardinal Lane, Huron, S.D. 57350 who descends from Russell Vawter, Chadwell, George Taylor, George W. and Ada A. Vawter his grandmother.

"Descendants of the Russell branch started a reunion 46 years ago (1936) in IN. My first attendance was in 1939 with my parents. My next was in 1941 at Royal Center, IN with 60 present. We sang songs and put on entertainment from young and old alike. In 1982 I, my wife and daughter, Georgene Jurgensen, attended the 46th reunion in Frankfort, IN.

The descendants of James B. Vawter & Fannie Warren Grisson have met for the past 21 years. Information taken from the VVVNL, No. 14, page 4 from Bishop Billy Mack Vawter.

The descendants of Ludwell (line of Edward the Builder) have had an annual reunion in the vicinity of Murphreesboro, TN for 50 years. David Vaughter, air line pilot, is a member of this group.

I would appreciate more information on the two above reunions. If anyone has knowledge of other Vawter reunions, please pass it on to me.

We encourage all VVV branches to have their own reunions; but ask them to encourage their members to become a part of the nationwide VVV Family Association. Membership is \$5.00.

#### NEW MEMBERS

Sent to me by Hazel McCandless - Treasurer

From the reunion:

Robert Brown - 550 Northern Rd., Apt. #201, S. Daytona, FL 32014  
Ann Vaughters - 1634 Tallulah St., N.W. Atlanta, GA 30318  
Arthur & Clara Kolschowsky - 1140 Old Mill Rd., Hinsdale, IL 60521  
Delbert & Linda Vawter - 415 Shadeeland Ext., N. Vernon, IN 47265  
Anthony Brown - Beltown Apt. #391-3B, Directory Dr., Columbus, OH 43213  
Karen Mendenhall - Rt, 2, Box 2591-6, Delta, OH 43515  
Amos & Willa Crouch - 301 N, Iowa, Chandler, OK 74834

After the reunion: ....

Lillian Corner - Rt 2, Dupont, IN 47231  
Paul W. Wooden (Edyth) P. O. Box 278, Westport, IN 47283  
Mrs Robert R. Moore (Mildred) 211 E. Third St., Keene, TX 76059  
James W. Vawter - 63 Delaware Rd., Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

Sent by Wordna:

Randall E. & Mary Engleman - 1506 Star Haven Dr., New Albany, IN 47150  
Russell K. & Jacqueline Vawter - 917 Norton Ave., Louisville, KY 40213 (parents of Mary Engleman) Both descend from John I, John II, David, Jesse, James, Milton, Frank, Rhyden, Russell K. Vawter.

Sent to me before reunion:

Mrs. Addison J. Parry (Mary) 5000 N. Pennsylvania St. #3, Indianapolis, IN 46205  
Col James Vaughter (ret.) 4206 Walnut Ave., Carmichael, CA 95608  
Hiram D. Vaughter - 4901 Andrews Ave., Amarillo, TX 79106 (Brother of Col.

James V.)

(If there are any new members who have not been listed, please write and tell me. Also, tell me your line of descent and something about yourself)

Late Additions:

James A. Vawter - 4525 S.W. Director St. Seattle, WA 98136  
Richard & Natalie Howard - 1312 Harvard, Houston, TX 77008  
Beverly Howard, 2617 Greenland, Mesquite, TX 75150  
Randy Howard - 58 N. Ellswood Apt. 3, San Mateo, CA 94401  
Brian & Carla Conrad-Vawter - 250 Touchstone Pl. #79, W. Sacramento, CA 95691 (Son of Esther & Virgil Vawter of W. Sacramento, CA)

MEMBER "PROFILE"

Paul E. Vawter, Sr. - 3801 Mission Hills Rd., Northbrook, IL 60062

Born 6 March 1908 near Madison, IN where my father, Clarence, (Bicknell p. 168) was the Methodist minister. (Although he was baptized and raised in the Baptist Church) He was a circuit rider and met my mother at one of his churches. A list of places I've lived looks like a railroad timetable.

At age 18 both my mother & father were killed by a train hitting their car leaving three other children ages 5, 13 & 14. We didn't want to be separated, so we all kept house and went to school.

In 1929 I eloped and married Betty Ferguson. We have a son, Paul Edward, Jr. who married Harriet Jane Harper and have two grandchildren. I am 6' 4" tall and now have white hair. I have the characteristics of the typical male Vawter - handsome, debonair, highly intelligent, and extremely modest!

I retired from Illinois Bell Telephone after 43 years in various management positions. Favorite pastimes - Watching all sports & playing bridge. Favorite foods - Meat, potatoes and gooseberry pie (can't find gooseberries anymore).

Line of descent: John I, John II, David, Jesse, William, Jesse R., Jesse Philemon, Clarence M. & me, Paul Edward, Sr.

"REMINISING" by Paul E. Vawter, Sr.

I recall my first year in kindergarten. I observed that kids who brought apples to the teacher received profuse thanks of appreciation. I wanted attention too and decided if one apple was effective, two (or more) would really set me apart. One day, armed with four apples I decided to really get attention. I gave my teacher one apple and got the usual thanks. Later, I gave another, then another, and finally my fourth which I had intended to keep for myself. Remember, other kids were donating also. Imagine the line-up of apples on that teacher's desk. Come recess, I was hungrey and those apples looked very inviting. So, when the teacher was distracted, I sneaked one of the apples back. I hoped she didn't notice and it certainly relived my hunger.

REUNION REFLECTIONS

Vice President - Bobbee Vawter on finding the graves of his g-grandparents. "surprised - happy - sad - grateful - proud"

Bonita Welch - R. R. #1, Box 227, Scipio, IN 47273

I had corresponded with Shirley Byler so much that I felt I already knew her. What a pleasure it was to meet her in person. She introduced me to Robert Vawter, (Bobbee) of DE, who like me, is a descendant of Jesse R., the son of William & Frances. What a thrill to be able to show him a picture of his g-g-grandmother Sarah Parks Vawter, the wife of Jesse R. On Friday I met another descendant of Jesse R. - Sara Hockmuth. She had a picture of my g-grandmother, Elizabeth Vawter Clark.

**IN MEMORIAM:**

We express sympathy to the wife and family of RHOYDEN F. VAWTER, SR. He had planned to attend the reunion, but illness prevented. He died 27 August. His son, Russell K. Vawter & family, and cousin Paul Wooden and wife did attend the reunion.

He was a native of N. Madison and had retired as the principal stockholder & cashier of the former N. Madison State Bank. He was a 50-year member of the Madison Masonic Lodge. He was an Army veteran of World War I.

Neal Vawter of Perry, OK died 15 July 1982. He was a first cousin to Hazel McCandless.

We report the death of Mrs. Margaret Montgomery Vawter of TN, the wife of Henry Alexander Vawter III whose death was reported in #10 page 2, P 1.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The reunion in 1983 will be August 5-6-7 at the Ramada Inn, 4528 E. Skelly Dr. Tulsa, OK 74135 - Phone (918) 496-9666. Advanced reservations, double \$34 - \$37.00. More detailed information will be given in the next issue - March 1983.

The VVV Directory, a nationwide listing of members of the VVVFA plus all others of the VVV name collected from telephone directories, is being printed. To order, write to Hazel McCandless and enclose \$6.50.

Kinswoman, Carolyn Vaughter of OK, has published a historical novel West Wind Wild. The story 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 and made out to Carolyn Vaughter.

If you are interested in either of the two books by Ralph E. Fall The Diary of Robert Rose - \$15.00 and Hidden Village-The Story of Port Royal, Virginia - \$20.00. Both tell much about the Vawter Church. You may order from The Rev. Ralph E. Fall, 7308 Three Chopt Rd., Richmond, VA 23229.

Roger & Shirley Byler of TX have purchased a computer. Quote from Shirley, "It is about the most fun we have ever had". The Computer is a CBM Commodore - model 8032. The Printer is a CBM Commodore - model 8300P. The Disk Drive is a CBM Commodore - model 4040. Congratulations! I know you will have much enjoyment and satisfaction in its use.

Sent to me by Vice President "Bobbee" Vawter of DE - Dale I. Vawter of Claremont, CA was re elected for a second term to the position of Recording Corresponding Secretary of International Union of Operating Engineers Local 12 in August at Los Angeles. This covers Southern California and Arizona.

Beth (Byler) Melton keeps busy these days. Besides preparing for the printing of our VVV Directory, she writes a monthly newsletter for the tax group of which she and husband and Joe are members. She and Joe made all the arrangements for their convention in September.

Sally Poland of Madison, IN reports she is going to help young Joe Vawter and his parents (of N. Vernon) to trace their roots. A big "thank you" for your help Sally. Keep us posted on your progress. Story of Joe #16 pg. 3, P 3.

Susan E. Curtis writes to express a big "thank you" to E.B. Vaughters of Seattle for his help in connecting her people to the Vawter line as follows: Bartholomew, Edward, Thomas, Edward, Hiram, John Wesley, Jerome Washington. (I came across a Vawter branch living in Canada in 1968 which led me to Susan. I could not help her at that time to connect to any of the Vawter branches in Bicknell. At that time I did not know the Vaughter(s) branch was connected to the Vawter clan.) Good work E.B.

President, "Pete" Vawter writes that the night of September 12 they had a flash flood which flooded his office (accountant) with 30 inches of water. Ever since he has been trying to get equipment, records and supplies dried out. Quote, "Boy that was some experience. All bad."

From Bonita Welch, R R 1, Box 227, Scipio, IN 47273 - Our Heritage, Inc. the Jennings County, Indiana, Historical Society would like to contact whoever now has the picture of John Vawter that at one time was on loan to the Heritage Museum at Vernon. The Society wants to have a copy made of the picture. The picture was taken back 12-14 years ago. If you know anything about it contact Bonita.

From Ted Vawter, 8175 Hooker, Westminster, CO 80030 of the nominating committee asks that if there is anyone interested in working and helping in the VVVFA to please write to him and let him know what you can do.

Frank & Florence Fitzgerald celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Aug. 9, 1982.

Paul E. Vawter & wife Lillian Elizabeth (Betty) celebrated their 53rd Sept. 3, 1982

From Hazel McCandless - Treasurer - I would like to have the addresses of the following: Vernessa Glegg, Bill M. Vawter, William D. Vawter, Diana V. Steinfelt, Leary E. Parrott, Jack H. Stoltz, N.L. & Marianna Vawter.

### QUERIES

Mrs. Joe Nash - 807 S. 12th, Longview, TX 75602 -Who were the parents of Nancy Vawter b. 20 May 1806, d. 26 Feb. 1876 m. William Bailey Harris?

Mrs. Robert R. Moore (Mildred) 211 E. Third St., Keene, TX 76059 -Who was this Vaughter buried in the Lone Oak Cemetery in Lewisburg, Marshall Co., TN - Edmund J. Vaughter - TN- SM2- US Navy- WW II - Dec. 13, 1923 - Sept. 26, 1950?

Nona Thompson - 10308 Durham, Oklahoma City, OK 73132 - She was given the family group sheet of Wm Vauter b. 1804, VA m. Mitilda Carter, by Rowena Matthews. She said her grandfather told her the name was originally VAUTER, but when Jesse started to school the teacher spelled it VAWTER like the others in the neighborhood. Grandpa said his mother Susan Vauter Flint said they were not related to the Vawter. Also I can't find them in the Vawter book by Bicknell. Their children were all born in Jefferson & Jennings Co. IN- Martha Ann, Mary Jane, John W. Vauter, Henry Vauter, Wm H. Vauter, Nancy, Jessie Vauter, Susan, Benjamin & Edmond (last two died young). Can you help clear up this puzzle? Does this family belong to our bunch?

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