



FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Website: www.vawterfamily.org

Dedicated to finding Vawter(s), Vauter(s), Vaughter(s)
Newsletter

March 2019 Volume 43 No 1

Reunion Dates:

Topeka, Kansas July 2019
Vauter's Church, Virginia 2020
Memphis, Tennessee 2021

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Hotel Reservations

The host hotel is the Hilton Garden Inn located at 1351 SW Arvonias Place, Topeka, Kansas 66615.

For reservations, please call 785-350-2069 and mention our code "VVV" when making a reservation.

For online reservations, you may use this hotel booking link:

<http://group.hiltongardeninn.com/vvfamilyreunion>

(Please note: You MUST copy and paste the entire URL address in order for the link to work.)

Room rates are \$104 per night plus applicable taxes. Release date for our rooms is June 19, 2019, so reservations will need to be made by this date. Room dates include nights of July 18, 19, and 20. To avoid a cancellation fee of the first night's room and tax, you will need to cancel 24 hours before the next day check in of 3 pm.

In Remembrance

Funeral service for Mr. **Gerry Brian Vawter**, age 66 of Milan, TN will be held on Monday, February 11, 2019 at 1 pm at Bodkin Funeral Home with burial to follow in the Pisgah Cemetery in Atwood. Visitation with the family will be held on Monday from 11 am to 1 pm at the funeral home.

He was born on June 5, 1952 in Milan to Robert and Mary Ellen Prather Vawter. Mr. Vawter was a retired Product Service Associate for Lowes.

He is survived by wife Linda Vawter of Milan, two daughters Carla Freeman (Brian) of Medina and Crystal Hodgson (Danner) of Nevada City, CA, two step children Jason Staggs of Tiptonville, TN and Lucinda Staggs of Jackson, two sisters Sylvia Hatcher (Larry) of Milan and Sandra Scott (James) of Jackson and eight grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Kevin Grant Vawter, age 46 of Valparaiso, IN passed away on January 23, 2019. Kevin was born in Valparaiso on June 10, 1972 to Donald and Leslie (Smith) Vawter.

He is survived by his wife, Mikell (Daege) Vawter; daughter, Jazmynne Vawter and son, Riley Vawter; father, Donald (wife, Charlotte) Vawter; mother, Leslie (husband, Bryan) White; maternal grandmother, Violet Smith; brother, Ryan Mann; sisters, Colette (husband, Todd) Popovich, Natasha Konchar and Rachel (husband, Dave) Barnard; aunts, Karen Vawter and Sharon Millet and uncle, Martin (wife, Donna) Smith; nieces & nephews, Ethan & Violet Popovich, Devon, Tristan, Ava & Chandler Konchar and Cheyenne Daege and many cousins.

Kevin was a loyal and loving husband, father and friend. He will be missed by everyone that knew him. Kevin was a bricklayer with BAC Local 4 IN/KY. Always a Metalhead and huge SLAYER fan. He was a legend in the local metal scene. He loved supporting Northwest Indiana Metal bands, especially his son's band Abhorator. He made every show he went to memorable. Often saying "that's my boy!" He was also extremely proud of his beautiful daughter and the hard-working young woman she has become. He always said "she has a good head on her shoulders." Kevin was a good man that mostly enjoyed music and having a good time with his friends. He was a founding member of "YSP"

Mildred Ann Vawters, of Rockford, Illinois, departed this earthly life February 4, 2019. She was born August 15, 1957 in Rockford the daughter of Thomas and Merion Vawters. Mildred was employed as a teacher by Blackhawk Day Care over 30 years before retiring. She attended Heartland Church. Mildred graduated from East High School, class of 1975.

Mildred leaves to cherish many loving memories, her daughter, Nicole Goode; two sisters, Delgracia (Warren) York and Beverly (Walter) Washington; four brothers, David (Alisa), Steven, Joseph (Linda) and Dexter Vawters; a host of nieces, nephews other relatives and friends. She was predeceased by her parents, brothers, Thomas and Jackie Vawters and sister Deborah Cain.

Josephine Janette Vawter Parker, Beloved mother, "granny", aunt, and friend passed away on November 6, 2018 at the age of 93 at Indianapolis, Indiana. Josephine was born on December 3, 1924 in Bloomington, IL to Skylar Vawter and Florence Turnam. She was one of seven siblings; John, Maxine, David, Robert, Paul and Patricia.

She attended Howe High School and began working for RCA during WWII, retiring in the mid 80's. Josephine's greatest joy came from spending time with her family. She will be remembered for her kindness and generosity by those who knew and loved her. She enjoyed reading, watching TV, and watching "her" Colts.

She is survived by her daughter; Nancy (Kirkham) Allen, grandchildren, Monica Whitehead, (Todd), Melissa Lutgring; and Michelle Hammons, great-grandchildren, Brittany Gray (Austin), Tyler Ferguson (Casey), Brooke Lutgring, Kathryn Ferguson, Briana Lutgring, Brandon Lutgring, and Aaron Hook. Josephine was preceded in death by her husband, Everett (Ed) Parker.

Josephine's Vawter Linage: 1.Bartolomew, 2.John, 3.David, 4.Philemon, 5.Beverly, 6.James C., 7.Albert G., 8.Skyler B. 9.Josephine.

Housing in Kansas History

As we head for Kansas for our next reunion, we can stop and remember the true pioneers who opened the prairies and created the great “bread basket” of America.



People who lived in the area we now call Kansas often used materials available to them to create their dwellings. American Indians were the first residents in Kansas, and used entirely natural products to build their homes. The ancestors of the Pawnee lived in [earth lodges](#) in the central and northern part of Kansas. These lodges were partially or completely subterranean. The ancestors of the Wichita lived in [grass lodges](#) in the southern part of the state.

These lodges were built above ground out of branches and prairie grass. Plains tribes lived in tipis made of leather supported by wooden poles since their housing needed to be more portable, such as following the herds on buffalo hunts.

The most basic dwelling on the frontier in western Kansas was the dugout. These were simple dwellings, usually dug into a dirt bank and with a sod roof. While some contained wooden boards, most had rough poles to hold the sod. The dugout was generally comfortable and functional during dry weather but often flooded during rainy periods. The early settlers to this area built these lodgings as temporary measures.

Sod houses required little expenditure because they usually were built of local materials. Native grasses and their roots that held the dirt together were cut into rectangles to be used as building blocks in the house. The labor expended was relatively moderate, but sod houses had to be rebuilt or abandoned periodically because of water damage and infestation by vermin. Attempts to keep a sod house clean were usually frustrated by dirt and insects falling down from the walls and ceiling. Most settlers lived in sod houses only long enough to gather the resources to build more livable frame dwellings.

European American settlers created more durable structures. Stone was the most durable material for early buildings in Kansas. However, it demanded much skill from the builder, and its use was dependent upon the availability of mortar. Stone houses covered a wide range of styles, from the humblest cabin to multi-storied residences.

Lumber became the most common type of building material for houses in Kansas. Sawmills were established in eastern Kansas in the earliest days of the territorial period. They quickly began to supply lumber to fuel the building boom. Some settlers ordered prefabricated frame houses from factories in the East. Thousands of frame houses dotted the Kansas landscape during the late 19th century.

As Kansas became more settled, residents built a variety of home styles. The date of a city's founding can often be determined by the style of the houses.



Tobacco Drinking



The Indian habit of pipe smoking was very fashionable in England by the 1570's, and it was not just a men's habit. Women, and even children, enjoyed the pleasures of the imported "Indian Weed" and women even smoked in public. English women were not the only ones enjoying the pleasures of pipe smoking, Dutch and French women also took up "tobacco drinking" - as in drinking in the smoke.

William Harrison's "Great Chronologie" from 1588 describes the early clay pipe as a "little ladell" or spoon shape. Late sixteenth century pipes were short stemmed, no longer than 1 3/4 inches and made of very delicate white clay. It may have been more appropriately named tobacco sipping since tobacco was very much a luxury item and the pipe bowl was only 1/4 inch in diameter. The Dutch were able to create a stronger clay body and by the seventeenth-century Holland was the major manufacturer of clay pipes and pipe stems had lengthened to 4 -6 inches long. Towards the end of the seventeenth century the pipe bowl was enlarged and the pipe stem lengthened to 11-12 inches. In the second half of the eighteenth-century the stems increased to two feet or more in length and earned the nineteenth-century nickname "churchwardens."

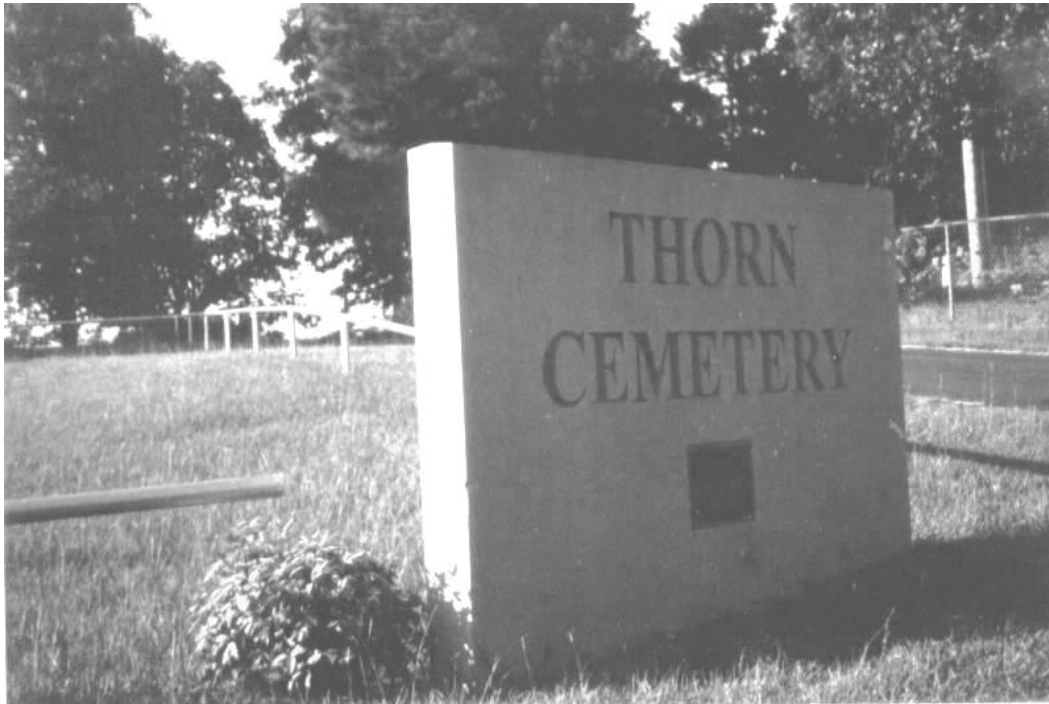
The discovery of so many pipe fragments at historic sites led people to believe that tavern pipe smokers shared a pipe in the Indian fashion by breaking off the end of the stem before passing it to the next person. Mr. Ivor Noel Hume, Colonial Williamsburg archeologist and social historian, believes there is no evidence to support this idea; the real reason is simply clay pipes were fragile and easily broken - making them the first disposable commodity. The end of the stem was tapered to fit the mouth, so if the end were broken off it would not be as comfortable to smoke. However, there is evidence that the pipes were placed in iron cradles and heated in bake ovens to cleanse them for the next round of smokers and also clear out the tar and resins. Fortunately clay pipes were inexpensive to replace. In 1709 a gross of pipes (that is 144 pipes) could be purchased for 2 shillings or \$16 in today's currency.

The top tavern pipe in the photo was purchased from Colonial Williamsburg. It was made by the Williamsburg Pottery in Lightfoot, Virginia and is typical of a mid eighteenth-century tavern pipe. The stem is 16 inches long (with a broken tip already) and the bowl is 1 3/4 inches high and 3/4 inches in diameter. The heel on the bottom of the bowl assists the pipe maker in fashioning the bowl. The bottom pipe was found a couple of years ago along the shores of the Chesapeake Bay. The Virginia State archeologist suspects a long forgotten barrel broke open somewhere because he had numerous calls about finding the same pipe on bay beaches around the same time. The bowl is the same size and the Colonial Williamsburg pipe, but the stem is only 4 inches long, either by design or from rolling around in the waves.

When temperately used, there is not in all the world a medicine comparable to tobacco. All of tobacco is wholesome. William Barclay: *Nepenthes; or, The Virtues of Tobacco*, 1614

James M. C. Vaughter, Faulkner County, Arkansas

Greenbrier Arkansas was incorporated as a town on April 5, 1880, with an estimated population of 300 people. Hardin Township at this time had 886 people and Cadron Township had 2,916 people. Between 1860 and 1880 some of the settlers attracted to this area were J.R. Wilson, Johnnie Love, Bob Lybarger, Jerry Cantrell, J.R. Donnell, J.E. Martin, John Dickens, Sam Cooper, Jackie Glover, J.M.C. Vaughter, and Dr. A. Hinkle.



Burial: Thorn Cemetery – Greenbrier - Faulkner County - Arkansas, USA

Ora Vaughter

Birth: Jun. 5, 1895

Death: Dec. 24, 1895

"Dau of J. M. C. & M. J. Vaughter"

Margaret J. Vawter

Birth: May 19, 1851

Death: Dec. 27, 1914

"Wife of J. M. C. Vaughter"

J. M. C. Vaughter

Birth: Apr. 25, 1849

Death: Jan. 21, 1926

Mason

Dorcia E. Vaughter

Birth: May 24, 1876

Death: Jun. 25, 1878

"Dau of J. M. & M. J. Vaughter"

1920 US Census Conway, Faulkner, AR #145

William C. Vaughter head age 30 b. AR/GA/GA

Lola M. wife age 28 b. AR/SC/AR

William R. son age 2 yr 5 mo b. AR/AR/AR

James M. C. Vaughter age 70 widow b. GA/GA/GA

1910 US Census Conway, Faulkner, AR #58
James M. C. Vaughter head age 60 GA/VA/GA married 39 years
Margaret J. wife age 59 GA/SC/SC married 39 years 7 children 5 living
Francis M. dau age 28 AR/GA/GA
Thomas E. son age 26 b. AR/GA/GA
William C. son age 21 AR/GA/GA

1900 US Census Conway, Faulkner, AR #28
James M. C. Vaughter age 51 b. Apr 1849 married 30 years b GA/VA/GA
Margaret J. wife age 49 b. Mary 1851 GA/SC/SC married 30 years 7 children 5 living
Minne E. dau age 25 b. Sep 1874 b. GA/GA/GA
Fannie M. dau age 18 b. Feb 1882 AR/GA/GA
Thomas E. son age 16 b. Nov 1883 b. AR/GA/GA
William C son age 11 b. March 1889 AR/GA/GA

1880 US Census Hardin Faulkner, AR #160
James Vaughter age 31 school Teacher GA/GA/GA
Margaret wife age 29 GA/GA/GA
Paul age 9 son GA/GA/GA
Minnie age 7 dau GA/GA/GA
Fannie age 4 mon dau AR/GA/GA

1870 US Census Franklin Co., GA #905/880
James Vaughter age 21 Teacher b. GA
Margaret age 19 b. GA

1860 US Census Franklin Co., GA #179
Elizabeth Vaughter age 47 domestic Real Estate \$4000/Per Prop. \$1000 b. Ga
Hiram age 19 farmer b. GA
Elizabeth age 17 Domestic b. GA
Julia age 15 b. GA
Lucinda age 13 b. GA
James age 11 b. GA
Eliza age 9 b. GA
Keessa age 7 b. GA
Samuel H Vaughter age 23 Student

1850 US Census Franklin Co., GA #1
Hiram Vaughters age 38 farmer \$3000 real estate b. GA
Elizabeth age 38 b. GA
Catharine age 17 b. GA
Samuel H. age 13 b. GA
Frances age 11 b. GA
Hiram age 9 b. GA
Elizabeth age 7 b. GA
Julia A. age 5 b. GA
Lucinda age 3 b. GA
James age 1 b. GA
Bethel Guest age 36 farmer
Willia Ayers age 45 farmer

**VVV Family Association
July 18 – 20, 2019
Topeka, Kansas**

Thursday, July 18

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 3:00 – 4:30 PM | Registration at Hilton Garden Inn, Topeka |
| 6:00 – 7:00 PM | Welcome dinner at the Michael McNary residence, Meriden, Kansas |
| 7:00 PM | Site committee meeting |
| 7:30 PM | Executive committee meeting |
| 9:00 PM | Fireworks show (weather and ground conditions permitting) |

Friday, July 19

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 8:00 – 8:30 AM | Registration at Hilton Garden Inn, Topeka |
| 8:30 – 9:30 AM | Business Meeting |
| 9:30 – 10:30 AM | Genealogy Session with Georgene Jurgensen |
| 10:30 AM | Depart for the homestead of Jephtha Dudley Vawter, Wakarusa, Kansas |
| 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM | JD Vawter homestead tour, Vawter Cemetery, and demonstration of cemetery headstone cleaning |
| 1:00 PM | Lunch and afternoon on your own |
| 6:00 PM | Dinner and evening on your own |

Saturday, July 20

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 8:30 AM | Depart for Historic Lecompton, Kansas. “The birthplace of the Civil War, where slavery began to die” |
| 9:30 AM | Presentation play of “Bleeding Kansas”. Tour of the Territorial Capitol Museum, Constitution Hall, and the Territorial Democratic Headquarters |
| Noon | Lunch and afternoon on your own |
| 6:30 PM | Annual VVV Family Association Banquet |

VVV Family Association Activities

July 18 – 20, 2019

Topeka, Kansas

Thursday, July 18

6pm -- Welcome dinner at the residence of Michael and Brenda McNary, 6500 86th, Meriden, KS 66512. We will have a BBQ dinner and activities and games for all ages. At 9pm, we will have a fireworks show (weather and ground conditions permitting). Enjoy the Kansas country scenery and socialize with fellow VVV family members.

Friday, July 19

11am – Tour of the Jephtha Dudley Vawter homestead, 5830 SW 107th, Wakarusa, KS 66546. We will also visit his cemetery located less than a ¼ mile east of his homestead. We'll visit a second cemetery where more Vawter relatives are buried. At the second cemetery, Michael McNary will make a presentation of cleaning cemetery headstones.

For the open afternoon activities, please see attached page "Activities in and around Topeka".

Saturday, July 20

9:30am – Historic Lecompton: "The birthplace of the Civil War, where slavery began to die". The Lecompton Historical Society will present a play called "Bleeding Kansas". The one-hour performance portion of the tour is set in a 1850s Kansas territorial political town hall meeting. Actors from the Lecompton re-enactors troupe will portray some of the famous Kansans from that turbulent time period known as "Bleeding Kansas". We'll also tour the Territorial Capitol Museum, Constitution Hall, and the Territorial Democratic Headquarters -- all located in Lecompton.

For the open afternoon activities, please see attached page "Activities in and around Topeka".

6:30pm – Annual VVV Family Association Banquet. Events during the banquet include: Invocation, dinner, memorial service, and love offering for the Vauter Church. We will have special recognition of youngest, oldest, longest married, farthest traveled, and the roll call of states. The next year invitation to the 2020 Reunion in Virginia and to the Vauter Church near Loretto, Virginia, will be given. Be sure to bring items for the door prize giveaways and for the live auction. Proceeds raised from the live auction help support the Vauter Church in Virginia.

For additional information, please contact Michael McNary, 6500 86th, Meriden, KS 66512

E-mail address: mmcnary@farmersagent.com

Cell phone: 785-231-7375 (text accepted)



Constitution Hall

Historic Lecompton, KS



Territorial Capitol Museum



John Brown—Radical Abolitionist
during “Bleeding Kansas” conflicts

Additional Activities In/near Topeka, Kansas

Listed below are several links for you to visit. Some of the sites have books (most are available free) that you may request. Also, there are other areas in Northeast Kansas that you may visit as well.

Kansas: <https://www.travelks.com/>

<http://www.kansastravel.org>

City of Topeka: <https://www.visittopeka.com/>

City of Lawrence: <https://unmistakablylawrence.com/>

Kansas City: <https://www.visitkc.com>

Follow the VVV Reunion updates on our Facebook Event Page at [Vawter, Vauter, Vaughter\(s\) Family Association 2019 Reunion](#). Michael McNary will be providing information about additional activities and attractions in and near Topeka.

If you have questions about the area and places to go, please feel free to contact our 2019 VVV Reunion host Michael McNary at 785-231-7375 or at mmcnary@farmersagent.com.

2019 Vawter Vauter Vaughter(s) Family Association Reunion

E-mail your registration as soon as possible. ----- Pay at the reunion when you register.

Pre-registration would be greatly appreciated, especially if you are not staying at the host hotel. We need to provide caterers with number of attendees by June 19, 2019. Thank you for pre-registering.

Pre-registration contact: Michael McNary 785-231-7375 (text accepted)
E-mail: mmcnary@farmersagent.com

Name of Each Attendee: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

Registration per Single Adult: _____ @ \$10.00 _____

or

Registration per Family: _____ @ \$15.00 _____

Dues for 2019 (if not paid) includes Newsletter and Website: _____ @ \$10.00 _____

Thursday BBQ Dinner and Fireworks Show – Age 13 & over: _____ @ \$10.00 _____

Thursday BBQ Dinner & Fireworks Show – Age 6-12: _____ @ \$5.00 _____

Thursday BBQ Dinner & Fireworks Show – Age 0-6: _____ N/C _____

Saturday – Lecompton tour – Age 19 & over: _____ @ \$10.00 _____

Saturday – Lecompton tour – Age 6-18: _____ @ \$4.00 _____

Saturday – Lecompton tour – Age 0-6: _____ N/C _____

Saturday – VVV Banquet – Age 13 & over: _____ @ \$37.00 _____

Saturday – VVV Banquet – Age 6 - 12: _____ @ \$18.00 _____

Saturday – VVV Banquet – Age 0-6: _____ N/C _____

Total Amount Due (Checks payable to VVV Family Assoc.) \$ _____



Irwin J. Vawter
and friend in WWI,
unknown location



Henry Clay
Vawter family
in Todd
Kentucky. Son
of Jephtha D.
Vawter and
Sarah Modised
(nee: Foster).

B. 4 Apr 1838
D. 27 Nov 1885