



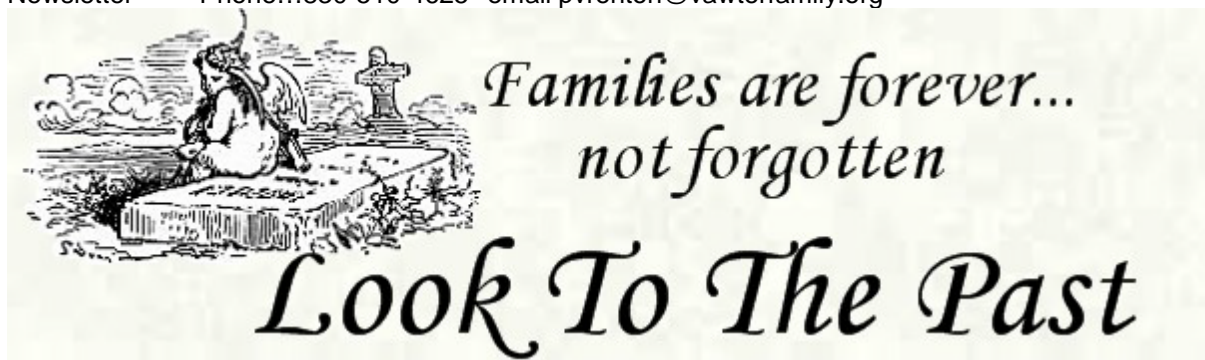
FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Website: www.vawterfamily.org

Dedicated to finding Vauter(s), Vawter(s), Vaughter(s)
Newsletter
March 2014 Volume 38 No 1
Reunion Dates:
Knoxville, Tennessee July 17-20, 2014
Vauter's Church, Virginia July 2015
Bentonville, Arkansas July 2016

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If you haven't paid your dues this year, please send your check to the
VVV Treasurer Jordan Johnston. Only.....**\$10.00 per year**

Bonita Welch added to the information on Parke Vawter. Thanks for the updates. I saw that you are seeking information on Parke Vawter. He was born 11 May 1885 in Rockville, Indiana, the son of Louis T. and Sarah Dawson Vawter. This information, along with more, is in the June 2006 newsletter, page 8.

I've never seen one of his paintings, but they are listed occasionally on some of the art sites, such as MutualArt.com. He was an illustrator of sheet music covers, and I have one in my collection, "Let Me Be Your Rain-Beau," by Clarence Hansen and Norman Nathan, copyright 1922 by H & N Music Publishers, Los Angeles, California. The cover is done in orange, black and white, and is a drawing of a man carrying a large umbrella and talking to a woman. In the lower right corner, it is signed Parke Vawter and His "Maw." The back cover is an advertisement for another piece of sheet music, "Florida," and it, too, is signed Parke Vawter and His "Maw."

At this time, there is a December 1938 Desert Magazine listed on eBay with a Buy It Now price of \$169.99. The description says, "Cover - Holy Night on the Desert, painted by Parke Vawter (Dauber Dan) of Twenty Nine Palms CA."

In Memoriam

The Washington Post. **Richard Q. Vawter**, a retired official of the General Services Administration who had served 13 years as the agency's information director, died Oct. 21 at a health-care center in Colorado Springs. He was 79. The cause was cardiac arrest following a stroke, said his daughter, Elizabeth Vawter. During his 27 years at the GSA, Mr. Vawter held a variety of positions, including as spokesman for the National Archives. He served in the agency's business services department and retired from the real estate and marketing section in 1996.

Richard Quinton Vawter was born in Tulsa and attended Joliet Junior College in Illinois from 1952 to 1954. He served in the Army from 1956 to 1962. Later, he worked as a journalist in Illinois. He came to Washington in 1967 as a correspondent for Copley News Service, covering Midwestern congressional delegations. Mr. Vawter, a former Arlington County resident, moved to Washington state on retiring from the GSA. He moved to Colorado Springs in 2012. His first marriage, to Christine Snevely, ended in divorce. His second wife, Irene Maher, whom he married in 1969, died in 2009. Survivors include a daughter from his first marriage, Elizabeth Ann Vawter of Colorado Springs; two grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Caroline Field Fisher Vawter died Dec. 20, 2013, in Gulf Breeze, Florida. Her interment service was on Jan 10, 2014, at Barrancas National Cemetery at Naval Air Station Pensacola. Caroline was born to John Alden Fisher and Florence Saben Field May 31, 1923, in Columbus, Ohio. She earned a BSC and Master of Arts at the Ohio State University. She was a ceramicist, writer, artist, and cellist.

During World War II, she served in the US Navy as a Link Trainer Instructor. (Link Trainer exhibit can be seen in the Naval Air Museum in Pensacola. The museum's collection is extensive.)

Caroline married Ralphe Beverly Vawter Feb 23, 1952, at the Congregational Church, Columbus, Ohio. They celebrated 57 years of marriage. They were very active at Christ Episcopal Church in Pensacola, a beautiful historic church. She and Ralphe traveled the world in recent years and lived in Florida, New York, Ohio, Illinois, and California. Ralphe predeceased her in 2009. She was also predeceased by her parents and her sister Janet Rose. She is survived by son Timothy Ellis Vawter, grandson Tim R Swierze, twin great granddaughters Addison and Bayley, 6 nephews and 2 nieces.

Caroline and Ralphe attended VVV Family Association gatherings for many years

Funeral services for Mr. **John Homer Vawter Jr.**, 81, of Nacogdoches will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 24, 2013, at Laird Funeral Home with the Rev. Rick Anderson officiating. Burial will follow at Bethel Cemetery in Appleby. Mr. Vawter was born on May 20, 1932, in Nacogdoches to the late John Homer Vawter Sr. and Rachel Alta Hill Vawter. He passed away peacefully on Thursday, Nov. 21, 2013, in Nacogdoches. John graduated Nacogdoches High School in 1949. He served his country in the U.S. Army in the Korean conflict for a two-year term. He retired from both Southwestern Bell after 40 years and as a Methodist minister for 50 years. He was a member of Bonita United Methodist Church in Central Heights. John loved to camp, travel, raise Boer goats, ride his tractor, research genealogy and he loved spending time with his family and going to family reunions. He is survived by his loving wife, Gloria Sue Vawter of Nacogdoches; son, John Wesley Vawter and wife, Diannia; daughter, Melinda Kay Vawter and life partner, Cindy Landry; son, Michael Ray Vawter and wife, Ann; daughter, Susanne Renae Chaviers and husband, Danny; grandchildren, Wes Vawter and spouse, Eric and Renee Chaviers, Juli Vawter, Steve and Erin Vawter, Stephanie and Andrew Blackwell, Wyndi Cage and husband, Jessica Satterwhite, Brian, Misty Black and husband, Jerry, Cliff Satterwhite, Misty Owens and husband, Tim, and Tiffany Gleis and husband, Duane; great-grandchildren, Andrew Williams and wife, Kayla, Leslie Williams, Hailey Cage, Kimberly Bulls, Deacon Black, Karsyn Lyons, Carter Hartman, Avery Malloy, Madison, Maci, Meagan, Sidney, Michael and Kadence, Kailey, Morgan Grace, Aiden Wesley and Morgan Bradley; and great-great-granddaughter, Brynli Cate due in February. Pallbearers will be Arnie Olsen, Gary Brandon, Duane Gleis, Tim Owens, Steve Vawter, James Smelley, and Andrew Williams. Honorary pallbearers will be Joe Burt Hurst and Chester Still.

Funeral services for **Mr. "J.W." John Wesley Vawter, Sr.**, 56, of Nacogdoches, Texas will be held on Saturday, December 21, 2013, at 3:00 PM at Trinity Baptist Church with Bro. David Coleman officiating. Burial will follow at Pleasant Hill Cemetery. Mr. Vawter was born on August 4, 1957, in Houston, Texas to John H. Vawter and Gloria Sue Rogers Vawter. He passed away on Wednesday, December 18, 2013, in Nacogdoches.

J.W. graduated from Nacogdoches High School in 1976 and attended Stephen F. Austin State University. He was a carpenter for 37 years. He picked this trade to follow in his grandfather's footsteps, John Homer Vawter, Sr. and James Allen Rogers. He built many homes and designed and built custom cabinets. He was a licensed Corian Countertops designer. He loved to hunt and fish. He raised Boer goats and Bobwhite Quail. J.W. took his parents to the Vawter Reunions and his father's Army reunions. He would always have morning coffee with his father. He called his mother every night to make sure she was ok. J.W. was the glue of his family, making sure everybody was ok. He loved his nieces and nephews and he kept up with them as well. What a great role model, father, son, and husband and friend he was to so many. He loved his children and grandchildren dearly, they were his life. J.W. will be tremendously missed by his family and so many friends and acquaintances.

He is survived by his loving wife, Diannia Vawter of Nacogdoches; children, Misty and husband, Tim, Tiffany and husband, Duane, Wyndi and husband, Brian, Misty and husband, Jerry, Cliff and wife, Deanna, Jesica, and Wes; grandchildren, Madison, Maci, Meagan, Sidney, Kadence, Michael, Andrew, Kayla, Lesli, Hailey (Tim), Kimberly, Deacon, Austin, Avery, Aiden and Morghen; great-grandchildren, Karsyn and Carter; sisters, Melinda and life partner, Cindy and Renae and husband, Danny; brother, Mike and wife, Ann; nieces and nephews, Eric and wife Renee, Juli, Steve and wife, Erin and Stephanie and husband, Andrew; great nieces, Kailey, Morgan and Brynli Cate-due in February. He was preceded in death by his father, John Homer Vawter, Jr. Pallbearers will be Fred Athey, Clay Jones, Casey Robertson, Ken Bridwell, Arlan Renfro, Chris Hillis, Steve Vawter and Greg Still.

Ecru, MS – **Judith Crawford**, 74, died Saturday, August 31, 2013 at Graceland Care Center in Pontotoc. She was born August 29, 1939 in Potts Camp to Thomas and Claris Mayer. She was a graduate of Hickory Flat High School and Freed-Hardeman University. She was a member of Sherman Church of Christ. She was a longtime employee of North Mississippi Medical Center as a Medical Technician in ICU. She enjoyed sitting on her back porch and watching the hummingbirds, tending to her flowers and traveling. She loved spending time with her family.

Services will be 11 AM Tuesday at Lee Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Minister Joe Connell officiating. Burial will be in Lee Memorial Park. Lee Memorial Funeral Home is entrusted with the arrangements.

Survivors include one daughter, Annette Woods (Jim) of Stockton, Missouri; two sons, Kenneth Grady (Mary) of Phillipsburg, Missouri and Bruce Grady of Orlando, Florida; one sister, Martha Hudson of Ecru; six grandchildren, Heather Hannon, Jennifer Laughlin, Samantha Woods, Codi Woods, Micheal Grady and Jack Grady; five great-grandchildren, Nathan Johnston, Clayton Comstock, Serenity Laughlin, Peyton Grady and Mason Grady. She was preceded in death by her parents; an infant brother and her husband, Robert E. Crawford.

Pension application of Allegany (Aleygane) McGuire (McGwier) S2797 f28VA

Transcribed by Will Graves 5/1/13

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions.

Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

[Note: Digital images of this application on both Fold3.com. and HeritageQuest.com are very poor – use the transcription with more than the usual care.]

State of Tennessee Maury County: On this 13th day of June 1833 personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of the County Court of pleas and quarter Sessions now sitting Allegany McGuire a Resident of the County aforesaid aged 76 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to Obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. In the State of Virginia Cumberland County Applicant thinks about the year 1776 he entered the Service of the United States as a Volunteer for six months under Captain Charles Scott [two or more words too faint to discern] the appointment of orderly Sergeant at Cumberland Court house, marched from thence to Williamsburg from Williamsburg to York then to Hampton where applicant states he could see the British lying in the Bay from the Steeple [?] for which tour he received a Discharge from his Captain. Afterwards applicant states his Father removed to Henry County he thinks the next year (Still in the State of Virginia) – where he entered the service again as a volunteer under Captain Burrell Reeves [could this be a mistaken attempt to identify Capt. Frederick Reeves of Henry County VA?] for nine months And again was appointed orderly Sergeant Rendezvoused at Francis [?] on Maho [Mayo?] Creek marched from there to Salisbury in the State of North Carolina lay there some length of time and from that point he thinks the command fell on the Lieutenant Choice [perhaps Lt. Tully Choice] of Henry County VA] until they joined General Lincoln's Army in South Carolina where Captain Dogett [Doggett?] took the command of the company & continued as [?] his orderly Sergeant. Applicant thinks it was not long after the Army was marched on to a place called Stono where they had a Battle [June 20, 1779]. Applicant remembers well of his Captain being wounded there and that he was with him until he died and he helped to bury him and after Captain Dogett was dead the command of the company fell on Lieutenant Choice again and he commanded until Applicant was discharged but applicant cannot remember by whom his discharge was signed from here returned home. Shortly after his arrival home entered Service again as a Substitute for a certain Stinard [?] Richardson for six months under the same Captain Burrell Reeves rendezvoused at Henry Court-house from there we marched for Hillsboro North Carolina from there to Santee where we lay sometime Applicant thinks this tour he was at several points in the State [of] South Carolina as well as the North State but remembers there being marched to Camden in South Carolina & there discharged by Captain Tully

Choice W3774 Reeves from Camden Applicant says he returned home to Henry County in Virginia Joining the State of North Carolina –Applicant says he thinks it was late in the fall of the year when he entered the Service again as a volunteer under Captain Williams of North Carolina and served nine months and the same Lieutenant Choice [?] he served under with Captain Reeves they marched on to Hillsboro where they were stationed at a long time from there Applicant thinks they marched to the Yadkin River from there marched night and day until they joined General Gates and he thinks it was not long before the two armies met well recollects of their having to stand on their arms all night and about day light the battle [August 15-16, 1780, Battle of Camden or Battle of Gates' Defeat] commenced and he was on the left wing next to a great [?] Swamp and he had to take to the swamp and make the best of his way home. Applicant states his clear knowledge of the above tour it being the most hazardous and painful he had during the war, he again made his way to Henry County and never received any discharge but knows he served the full nine months. After which he was generally at Governor Henry's Stationed and made no other Regular tour during the war. After the close of the war he [was] in need and moved to the frontiers of Georgia where he served as an Indian Spy for about two years under Capt. Wade Rid [?] and Capt. George Alexander and was at Stono[?] Treaty held by General Blackmore [?] he was then a Spy – applicant declares he cannot state his different routes, dangers and fatigues he went through during this Service but expects his name could be found on the Spy Company Rolls –Applicant states this is the second Application² he has made to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 but in consequence of their not being any dates to ascertain how long he served and the inarticulate [?] manner his declaration was drawn and certified, it was returned some few months past and he being counseled draw another and have it duly qualified humbly submits the above &c. Applicant has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his Service. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State.

S/ Aleygane Magwier

[James Y. Green, a clergyman, and James Huey gave the standard supporting affidavit.]\

Q Where and in what year were you born A. In Cumberland County State of Virginia Willis Creek in the year 1757

Q 2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it? Ans. I have and can present the same – as a Transcript from my Father's family record

Allegany Mc was born August the 6th 1757

Q 3rd Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live A. I lived in Cumberland County State of Virginia when called into service first then my father moved to Henry County where I continued to serve in the Army – and there lived until the close of the war then moved to the frontiers of Georgia Elbert County from there to Tennessee where I have been living in this County twenty-four or five years and where I now live –

2 There is no evidence of the first application filed by veteran in this file.

Q 4th How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a Substitute and if a Substitute for whom Ans. I volunteered every tour I served but one six months tour I substituted for my uncle Stenard Richardson

Q 5th State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you Serve Such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general Circumstances of your Services Ans. I recollect General Lincoln General Gates and many I can recollect of seeing but cannot recollect all their names has so the Regiment I have forgot what their number was I was in almost all my tours generally detached from place to place and my memory fails so that I can state places better than I can remember names

Q 6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it.

Ans. I did receive a discharge from Captain Charles Scott for my first 6 months tour also I received a discharge for nine months after Captain Dogett was killed but cannot recollect who signed I had another from Captain Reeves in the last 9 months I never got one out well recollect of having these discharges many years but having my house burned in the State of Georgia expects they were burned I never have seen them since when Serving as a Spy on the frontiers of Georgia I think there was never any discharge given

7 State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

A. George Bear, John Crawford Elisha Hurt [?] Esq. James Hughy Esq. Col. James K. Polk [p 3: On June 28, 1843 in McNairy County Tennessee, the veteran filed for a transfer of his pension benefit saying that he had moved from Hardin County Tennessee to McNairy County Tennessee and wished his pension to be payable in Jackson Tennessee in the future rather than in Nashville Tennessee in that he intended to live with his son (not named) in McNairy County so that he could be taken care of in his old age. This document was signed with his mark.]

(GJNote: Aligany McGuire, Jr only son of Aligany McGuire did live in Laurence Co., TN in 1836 by a recorded document, Richard Vawter son in law was deceased by 1827, although he lived in Laurence Co., TN) [Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$105 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for service for 15 months as a Sergeant and 9 months as a private in the Virginia service.]

[Note: In the true spirit of being a team, C. Leon Harris adds the following notes: Regarding Capt Reeves and Stono Ferry: "he entered the service again as a volunteer under Captain Burrell Reeves [could this be a mistaken attempt to identify Capt. Frederick Reeves of Henry County VA?] for nine months And again was appointed orderly Sergeant Rendezvoused at Francis [?] on Maho [Mayo?] Creek"

I think you are correct in thinking "Burrell Reeves" was Frederick Reeves. In the pension application of Tully Choice (W3774), William Choice³(W3656) stated "Tully Choice and this deponent entered the service of the United States in the said State of Virginia, commanded by Capt. Frederick Reeves, in which company the said Tully Choice was Lieutenant and marched to Salisbury No Ca where Capt. Reeves, whose company was too small, was turned back and his

³William Choice W3656 company joined Capt. Witekera under the command of the said Tully as Lieutenant. "In his own pension application, William Choice stated that he "marched under the command of Frederick Reeves Captain and Tully Choice his brother Lieutenant as far as Statesburg [Statesville?] in the state of North Carolina, from which place Capt. Reeves returned home and Lieutenant Tully Choice continued in command till the declarant arrived as Salisbury North Carolina where the army was stationed under the command of Col. [David] Mason and Major Burrell." The name of the Major may be the source of the confusion about Reeves's name. Tully Choice was in the Henry (not Pittsylvania) County Militia.

According to William French⁴(S37943) the rendezvous was at "The house of Henry Francis on the South Mayho [Mayo] river." There is no Maho or Mayo Creek, but there is a South Mayo River. "they joined General Lincoln's Army in South Carolina where Captain Dogett [Doggett?] took the command of the company & continued as [?] his orderly Sergeant. Applicant thinks it was not long after the Army was marched on to a place called Stono where they had a Battle [June 20, 1779]. Applicant remembers well of his Captain being wounded there and that he was with him until he died and he helped to bury him and after Captain Dogett was dead the command of the company fell on Lieutenant Choice again and he commanded until Applicant was discharged "The only Captain "Dogett" I know of from that area was Chatton Doggett of the Bedford County Militia, but he was not at Stono Ferry and was still active a year later. There was a Capt. Richard Doggett from SC at Stono Ferry, but he did not die there. I can't imagine who Magwier had in mind.

⁴William French S3794

Things My Mother Taught Me

My mother taught me TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE – “If you’re going to kill each other, do it outside – I just finished cleaning!”

My mother taught me RELIGION – “You better pray that will come out of the carpet.”

My mother taught me about TIME TRAVEL - “If you don’t straighten up, I’m going to knock you into the middle of next week!”

My mother taught me LOGIC – “Because I said so, that’s why!”

My mother taught me FORESIGHT – “Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you’re in an accident”

My mother taught me IRONY – “Keep laughing and I will ‘give’ you something to cry about.”

My mother taught me about the science of OSMOSIS – “Shut your mouth and eat your supper!”

My mother taught me about CONTORTIONISM - “Will you ‘look’ at the dirt on the back of your neck!”

My mother taught me about STAMINA – “You’ll sit there ‘til you eat all that spinach.”

My mother taught me about WEATHER – “It looks as if a tornado swept through this room!”

My mother taught me about PHYSICS PROBLEMS – “If I yelled because a meteor was coming straight toward you, would you listen then?”

My mother taught me about HYPOCRISY – “If I’ve told you once, I’ve told you a million times – Don’t exaggerate!”

My mother taught me THE CIRCLE OF LIFE – “I brought you into this world, and I can take you out.”

My mother taught me about BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION – “Stop acting like your father!”

My mother taught me about ENVY – “There are millions of less fortunate kids in this world who don’t have such wonderful parents as you do.”

Thanks, MOM for everything

Essex County Deeds 1745-1749 On margin Orig. Deed delivd. To Bartho: Vawter 3 Mar 1750)pp. 387-390. This indenture made 18 Nov 1749, between John Vawter of Essex and Bartholomew Vawter eldest son of said John Vawter. Witnesseth that John Vawter in consideration of love and good will doth bear toward his loving son Bartholomew for the sum of 5 shillings give and confirm a tract of land lying in St. Anns Parish in Essex at the head of Blackburn’s Creek, containing 150 acres together with all profits, quitrents excepted. Signed Jno: Vawter. Wit: Robert Harbin, Thomas Tiller, Willo: Pugh, Winifred Vawter, Saml. Browne, Angus Vawter. On 21 Nov 1749 the deed was delivered by the oath of Thomas Tiller, Willoughby Pugh and Winifred Vawter. Test John Lee, Cclerk.

Essex County Deeds 1749-1752. pp 294-298. (On margin: Original delivered to Capt. Jas: Garnett Decr. 6th 1752, 26th Geo:2d)

this indenture made the Twentieth day of janry in year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Fifty two between Bartholomew Vawter of County of Essex, Planter, of one part and James Garnett of same County of other part. Witnesseth that Bartholomew Vawter in consideration of the sum of Two hundred and Forty one pounds current money of Virginia in hand well and truly paid by James Garnett, by these presents doth release and sell unto James Garnett his heirs all that parcell of land which Bartholomew Vawter (Grand Father to the said Bartholomew Vawter party to these presents) purchased from John Hawkins deced. containing by estimation One hundred and fifty acres more or less lying on the head of Blackburns Creek and on the Long Bridge Swamp and joyning to the land which John Vawter deced purchased of Buckingham Brown deced. & on the Land which the said James Garnett purchased of Thos: and Young Hawkins, Together with all houses barnes stables orchards gardens marshes swamps profits & appurtenances to the same belonging; To have and to hold the parcel of land & premises unto James Garnett his heirs and James Garnett his heirs paying the rents and services which hereafter become due unto our Sovereign Lord the King only excepted & foreprized: In witness whereof the party first above named to this Indenture his hand and seal hath set the day and year above written. Signed and Sealed in presence of Robert Smith, John Jones, Muscoe Garnett, Angus Vawter, Signed Bartholomew Vawter.

Hotel for the VVV Reunion



Crowne Plaza

401 W. Summit Hill Drive

Knoxville, TN 37902

Phone: 1-865-522-2600

- Extensive Fitness Center
- Full Service Restaurant
- Free Wireless High Speed Internet Access
- Guest Use Copy Machine
- Guest Use Fax Machine
- Indoor Heated Pool
 - Porter / Bellman
 - Valet Parking
 - Cocktail Lounge

Reunion Rates:

\$94.00 + tax for 2 Double Beds / \$104.00 + tax for King

\$8.00 per day parking fee / \$10.00 per day for Valet Parking

WV's GOT TALENT

Who's in the mood for some pickin' and grinnin'?

Join us on Friday evening for a night devoted to fun and entertainment brought to you by family!!! Dust off your dancing shoes! Get your instruments in tune!

Memorize those lines! Polish those vocals! What better place to showcase your talent than in front of family!!

A night for making memories with the ones we love!!

Contact Michelle Alexander to sign up as a performer. (270) 519-1872

(sound equipment/portable karaoke/keyboard available)

IJAMS NATURE CENTER

([HTTP://IJAMS.ORG/](http://IJAMS.ORG/))

Come visit us and find out why people love Ijams so much! Ijams is a wild place filled with rocks, rivers, trees, trails, owls and salamanders. Visitors of all ages and ability can hike, bike, paddle, stroll, learn or simply enjoy the day. Ijams is a sanctuary for all visitors to learn and connect with the natural world and be made better by that connection – a place where living with the earth and caring for the earth become one and the same.

Admission Prices: Presentation and guided tours – included in registration / additional activities and rentals available

MUSEUM OF APPALACHIA

([HTTP://WWW.MUSEUMOFAPPALACHIA.ORG/](http://WWW.MUSEUMOFAPPALACHIA.ORG/))

This unique collection of pioneer buildings and artifacts was amassed over a half a century by John Rice Irwin. He traveled the back roads, collecting untold thousands of everyday items from the colorful and interesting mountain folk of Southern Appalachia. The Museum tells the stories of these folk in their own words and through the artifacts they left behind. Cabins appear as though the family has just left to work in the fields, or go to Sunday meeting. Stroll through the village and imagine yourself back in Old Appalachia...cutting firewood...tending livestock... mending a quilt... or simply rocking on the porch, enjoying the pastoral views.

Admission Prices: Adults \$18 / Seniors \$15 / Youth (13-18) \$10 / Children (5-12) \$6 / Children (5 and under) Free

NORRIS DAM STATE PARK

([HTTP://TNSTATEPARKS.COM/PARKS/ABOUT/NORRIS-DAM](http://tnstateparks.com/parks/about/norris-dam))

This more than 4,000 acre park, located on the Norris Reservoir, began in 1933 as the first project by the Tennessee Valley Authority, a Great Depression-era entity created by the federal government to control flooding and bring electricity and economic development to the Tennessee Valley. Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) workers were sent to help build the park. Many of the facilities at the park were constructed by the CCC and still in use. Norris Dam State Park was named for Nebraska senator George William Norris, who lobbied intensively for the creation of the Tennessee Valley Authority in the early 1930s.

Admission Prices (Free)

WOMENS BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

<http://www.wbhof.com/>

World's Largest Basketball: The Women's Basketball Hall of Fame is home to the world's largest basketball. The Baden Ball measures 30-feet tall and weighs 10 tons.

Hall of Honor: The Hall of Honor is where we formally recognize the individuals who have been inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame. Each inductee has helped the game of women's basketball grow, and their achievements are highlighted in this area of the Hall.

Basketball Courts: In the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame, you can test your basketball skills on three different courts, a timed dribbling course, a passing skills area, and a vertical leap challenge.

The Eastman Statue: As you enter the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame, the first thing you see is the Eastman Statue. This 17-foot bronze statue exemplifies our mission to "honor the past, celebrate the present, and promote the future" of women's basketball.

Admission Prices: Adults \$7.95 / Seniors (62+) \$5.95 / Youth (6-15) \$5.95 / Youth Under 5 Free

Knoxville Zoo

<http://www.knoxville-zoo.org/>

Admission Price: Adults \$19.95 / Seniors & Children (2-12) \$16.95 / Under 2 free

World's Fair Park

<http://worldsfairpark.org/>

Sunsphere

The Sunsphere, in Knoxville, Tennessee, is an 81.07 m high hexagonal steel truss structure, topped with a 23 m gold-colored glass sphere that served as the symbol of the 1982 World's Fair.

Splash Park

With everything from interactive fountains to a one-story-high geyser, the new World's Fair Park contains some of the most innovative and exciting water features to be found anywhere around. Echoing the wide variety of natural waters in our area, the man-made lakes, streams and cascading waterfalls add visual interest, auditory pleasure, and important focal points to an impressive and highly functional landscape design.

Bradley's Chocolate Factory - <http://www.chocolatelovers.com/>

Mast General Store

<http://www.mastgeneralstore.com/communities/kv/>

The Knoxville store has been a retail landmark in Downtown Knoxville since 1898. The building was constructed after the "Million Dollar Fire" in 1897 and was home to the McNulty Grocery and Dry Goods Co. In 1901 M. M. Newcomer's Department Store made the move from across the street into the building at 402 South Gay Street. It was one of Knoxville's bigger stores. Today, this downtown emporium has been restored to the height of its Victorian period. Fixtures from the past mingle with new display units to showcase Mast's unique blend of traditional clothing for men and women from such names as Woolrich, Flyshacker and Pendleton.

Knoxville Museum of Art

<http://www.knoxart.org/>

The Knoxville Museum of Art celebrates the art and artists of East Tennessee, presents new art and new ideas, educates and serves a diverse community, enhances Knoxville's quality of life and economic development, and operates ethically, responsibly, and transparently as a public trust.

Admission Price for World's Fair Park and Downtown Activities: Free

Cade's Cove in Great Smoky National Park

<http://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/cadescove.htm>

Cades Cove is a broad, verdant valley surrounded by mountains and is one of the most popular destinations in the Great Smokies. It offers some of the best opportunities for wildlife viewing in the park. Large numbers of white-tailed deer are frequently seen, and sightings of black bear, coyote, ground hog, turkey, raccoon, skunk, and other animals are also possible.

An 11-mile, one-way loop road circles the cove, offering motorists the opportunity to sightsee at a leisurely pace. Allow at least two to four hours to tour Cades Cove, longer if you walk some of the area's trails. Traffic is heavy during the tourist season in summer and fall and on weekends year-round. While driving the loop road, please be courteous to other visitors and use pullouts when stopping to enjoy the scenery or view wildlife.

Located approximately 45 miles south of Knoxville - **Admission Price: Free**

Blount Museum: <http://www.blountmansion.org/>

By 1925, the area around the Blount Mansion had been allowed to seriously deteriorate. Slums existed in the waterfront area. Blount Mansion was in seriously run-down condition. Across the street from the Mansion site, the Andrew Johnson Hotel was under construction as part of a downtown revitalization. Efforts were underway to purchase the Blount Mansion property, and raze the only home of a signer of the U.S. Constitution outside of the 13 original states for hotel parking. Local figures such as Mrs. B.B. Cates, Dr. James Hoskins, a Dean at the University of Tennessee and President of the East Tennessee Historical Society, and Miss Mary Boyce Temple, a regent of the Bonny Kate Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, spearheaded the effort to save Blount Mansion.

Mary Temple gave her check for \$100 to secure the option on the property in November of 1925, and on November 17, 1926, Blount Mansion Association, Inc., was established to preserve the property. Miss Temple served as the first President of the Association. The Mansion was restored and opened for tours in 1930, the same year the last loan of the \$31,500 purchase price was paid in full. Now, Blount Mansion, designated as Knoxville's only National Historic Landmark by the National Park Service in 1965, has become the oldest museum in Knox County.

Admission Prices: Adults \$7 / Seniors \$6 / Children \$5

EAST TENNESSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

[HTTP://WWW.EASTTNHISTORY.ORG/](http://www.easttnhistory.org/)

History speaks through the Museum of East Tennessee History's permanent and changing exhibits! At the heart of the museum is the award-winning signature exhibit, *Voices of the Land: The People of East Tennessee*, a moving, artifact-rich journey through more than 300 years of life in East Tennessee. Popular, too, is the *East Tennessee Streetscape*, a true step back in time, wherein visitors can peruse the Corner Drug Store or climb aboard Island Home-bound Streetcar No. 416.

REUNION T-SHIRTS

To order T-shirts for the 2014 VVV Reunion, please mail \$10.00 per shirt to:

**Phil Vaughter
1103 Newport
Austin, TX 78753**

Phil needs to know how many shirts to order – so don't delay.

***VVV Family Reunion
July 17-20, 2014
Knoxville, Tennessee***

Estimated Registration Fees

Registration Per Single Adult	\$10.00
Or	
Registration Per Family	\$15.00
Dues for 2014 (if not paid)	\$10.00
Thursday Night Reception	No Charge
Friday Downtown Activities	No Charge
Friday Lunch	On Your Own
Friday Night BBQ Pork and Rib Buffet	\$22.00 (Adult)
	\$15.00 (6 - 12)
Ijams Nature Center Presentation	\$20.00 (Adult)
(Includes Guided Tours and Meal)	\$15.00 (6 - 12)
Saturday Afternoon Activities	On Your Own
Saturday Night Banquet	\$35.00 (Adult)
	\$12.00 (Child)

VVV Family Reunion
July 17-20, 2014
Knoxville, Tennessee

Thursday, July 17, 2014

1:00 – 5:00 PM	Registration at the Crowne Plaza
5:00 – 8:00 PM	Registration at the Clarion Hotel
6:00 PM	Hospitality Gathering at Clarion Hotel
7:00 PM	Site Committee Meeting (TBD)
8:00 PM	Executive Committee Meeting (TBD)

Friday, July 18, 2014

8:30 – 9:30 AM	Business Meeting (Crown Plaza – Salon C)
10:00 AM	Depart by Trolley for Downtown Activities
10:30 AM	Observation Deck at Sunsphere Bradley's Chocolate Factory Mast General Store
12:30 – 1:30 PM	Lunch On Your Own at a Local Downtown Restaurant

Optional Activities for the afternoon

2:00 PM	Genealogy Session at East Tennessee Historical Society
2:00 PM	Splash Park at World's Fair Park Ropes Course at Ijams Nature Center Bike / Canoe Rentals at Ijams Nature Center Appalachia Museum Tour Norris Dam State Park Knoxville Museum of Art Blount Mansion Women's Basketball Hall of Fame Cade's Cove at Smoky Mountain National Park
6:00 PM	VVV's Got Talent Show and Dinner at Bearden Banquet Hall

Saturday, July 19, 2014

9:30 AM	Depart for Ijams Nature Center
10:00 AM	Ijams Nature Center Presentation Guided Hiking Tours (Easy / Moderate / Challenging)
12:00 PM	Catered Lunch at Ijams Nature Center

Optional Activities for the afternoon

1:00 PM Ropes Course at Ijams Nature Center
Bike / Canoe Rentals at Ijams Nature Center
Appalachia Museum Tour
Norris Dam State Park
Knoxville Museum of Art
Blount Mansion
Women's Basketball Hall of Fame
Cade's Cove at Smoky Mountain National Park

6:30 PM Annual VVV Banquet at Crowne Plaza (Salon C)

Sunday, July 20, 2014

9:00 AM Family Church Service at Crowne Plaza (Salon C)

27 Oct 2020.....Genealogy of the future

Dear Cousin Lucy,

At long last I have published my books (Volumes I AND II) of ancestors (make that ancestor), and your copies are coming under separate cover. I hope you enjoy them.

Over the years, the documentation standards have required more and more footnotes, end notes, parenthetical commentary, and appendices. While I have found three thousand ancestors, printing costs limit me to including only one, Great Grampa Henry – see page 37.

The first 36 pages explain the books' sections and acknowledge those contributing assistance (See cab driver who took me to the Library of Congress, p.20; you will enjoy his comments) pages 38 to 876 tell you where I found the information about G-G Henry, so that you can check and draw your own conclusions about details of his birth, marriage, and death. (I have over a hundred fascinating pages about his life, but, alas, could not afford to include them.)

You may find it interesting that the Massachusetts State Archives employee on duty at 2:31 PM, 23 February 1990 (see pages 79, 1010 and 124-140), was our cousin once removed. (She witnessed my microfilm viewing that day, and you will find a copy of her credentials (p. 160), with the description of the film reader's make, model, serial number and 5 year maintenance log. She signed the statement, verifying my use of the film, and the fact that I wore my glasses – (see page 290.)

Since old Henry's death date was not on the tombstone, I calculated the date from that miserable line "at the age of 87 years, 3 months, and 3 days." You will find the calculation explained in Appendix M, pages 901 to 1467.

Appendix X, in Volume II, includes summaries of documentation standards and annotation formats from NGS, Barzun and Graff, Lackey, Chicago Style Manual, Turabian and the publishers of Walt Disney comics. Most citations are duplicated in each of those styles.

Lucy, the more I think about it, with your day job at the plant, your night-time cab driving, and the weekend Bingo sessions, you won't have time to read two books. Here's the main text from page 37: Henry Harborhaven (may have been Henry Bratsmith)

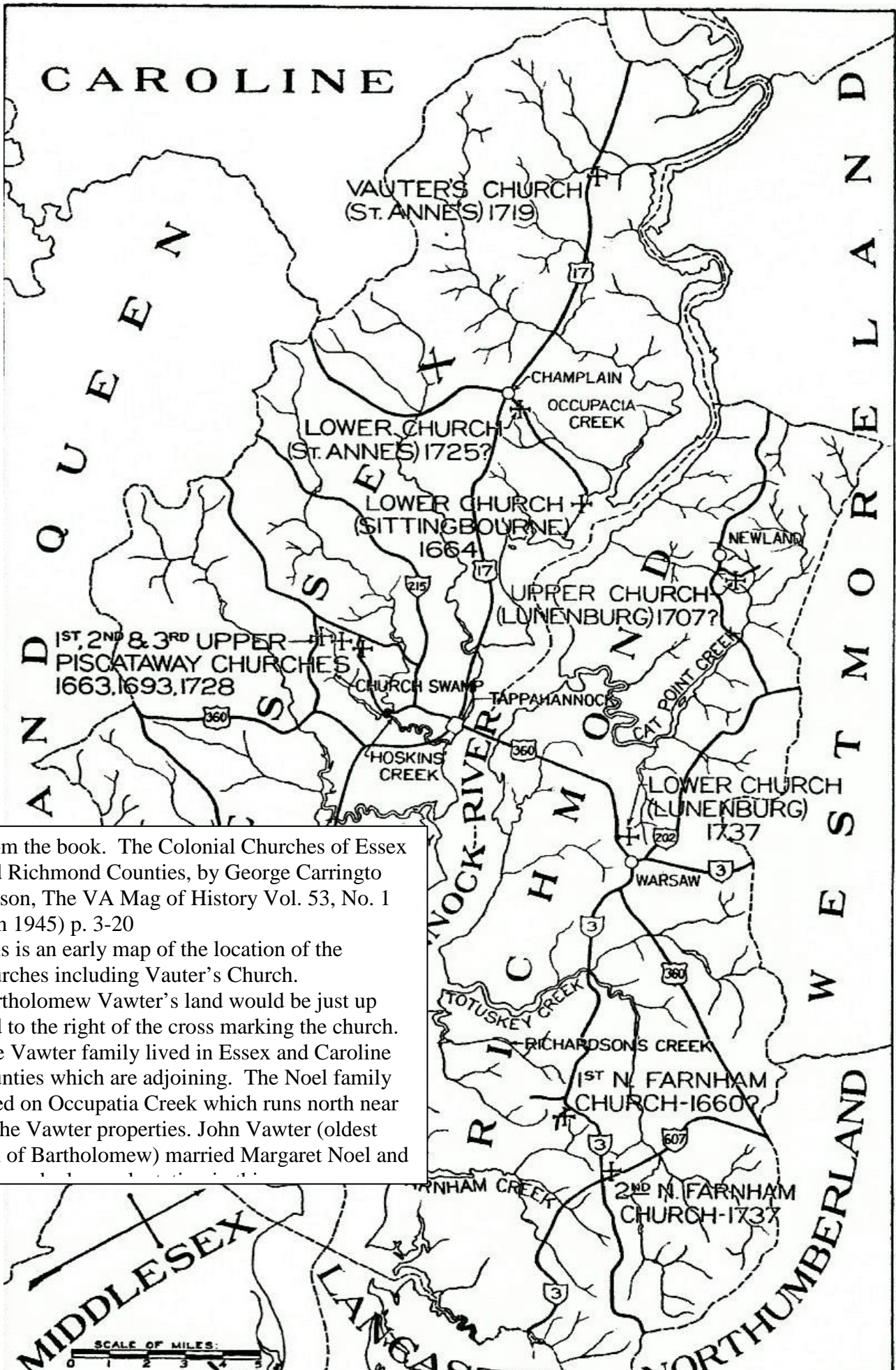
b. 4 Jan 1834, in New York or New Orleans

m. 11 June 1867-73, somewhere in Nebraska

d. Beats me. See Volume I, p. 301.

Oh forget it, I won't send the books. Postage is too high these days anyway. Say hello to Jack and the kids.

Regards, Cousin Bob



From the book. The Colonial Churches of Essex and Richmond Counties, by George Carrington Mason, The VA Mag of History Vol. 53, No. 1 (Jan 1945) p. 3-20

This is an early map of the location of the churches including Vauter's Church. Bartholomew Vawter's land would be just up and to the right of the cross marking the church. The Vawter family lived in Essex and Caroline counties which are adjoining. The Noel family lived on Occopacia Creek which runs north near to the Vawter properties. John Vawter (oldest son of Bartholomew) married Margaret Noel and



FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Website: www.vawterfamily.org

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

June 2014 Volume 38 No 2

Reunion Dates:

Knoxville, Tennessee July 17-20, 2014

Vauter's Church, Virginia July 2015

Bentonville, Arkansas July 2016

Officers

- President Connie Bugos...480 E. Pearl St, Farmington, IL 61531
Phone 309-645-4848 Email is buggram@att.net
- Vice President Bruce Vawter, 9321 Manoroak Dr, St. Louis, MO 63126
Phone 314-849-8727 email fcsvawter@sbcglobal.net
- Treasurer Jordan M. Johnston...14357 W. Lexington Ave,
Goodyear, AZ 85395 Phone 623-242-9296
email Jordan@bearcreekindustries.com
- Asst. Treasurer Phil Vaughter...1103 Newport, Austin, TX 78753
Phone...512-836-3105 email PRV37@aol.com
- Secretary Rebecca Guinagh, 10670 NW 32 PL, Gainesville, FL Phone
352-331-2879
Email - Guinaghbeck@yahoo.com
- Archivist Beth Melton, 3809 Junker, Rosenberg, TX 77471
Phone 281-232-7972 email - emeltonea@aol.com
- Newsletter & Historian Georgene Jurgensen...1704 SW New Orleans Ave.
Lee's Summit, MO 64081
Phone...816-591-0251 email gfjurgensen@gmail.com
- Website & Newsletter Patricia Renton...2372 Bear Creek Rd, Pipe Creek, TX 78063
Phone...830-510-4625 email pvrenton@vawterfamily.org



The Vawter Family Reunion scheduled for 2015 is in progress..... Plan now to mark your calendar for the reunion in Virginia and the tour of the famous Vauter's Church

Dates for the reunion are July 17, 18, 19 - 2015
in Tappahannock, Virginia.

Complete details will be posted by the end of the year.

If you haven't paid your dues this year, please send your check to the VVV Treasurer Jordan Johnston. Only.....\$10.00 per year

Please don't delay any longer. IF we are going to have reunion t-shirts this year we need more orders.

To order T-shirts for the 2014 VVV Reunion, please mail \$10.00 per shirt to:

**Phil Vaughter
1103 Newport
Austin, TX 78753**

In Memoriam

Wanda Nadine Vawter Hulett Gould, 90, formerly of St. Louis, Missouri, passed peacefully Saturday, March 2, 2013 at home in her sleep (the way she wanted to go) Per her wishes, graveside services were held Thursday, March 7, 2013 in Bevier, Missouri.

Wanda Nadine Gould was born in Bevier, Missouri, on September 10, 1922 to Edward E. and Mahala A. (Sanders) Vawter. She married Aubrey Hulett in 1939. She came to St. Louis in 1942 where she raised three children. In October, 1946 , she began working in Mallinckrodt and retired from there in 1985. She married Charles Gould in September, 1967. He preceded her in death March 2, 2006.

Wanda enjoyed doing crafts, crocheting, sewing and quilting. Cooking was a favorite and she would share her recipes with everyone. She was a member of Bethany-Peace Church and the SilverCircle Senior group at First Baptist Church in Bellefontaine Neighbors. She loved to cook and share it with others. At Christmas she made many cookies and not only gave them to friends and neighbors, but also to businesses she had dealings with.

She was still driving, maintaining her own home and business affairs with no help needed.

Wanda is survived by one daughter and son-in-law, Charlotte and Lonnie Peterson of Granite City, Illinois, one granddaughter, 4 grandsons, 9 great grand children, 5 great great grand children, nieces and nephews. She leaves behind special friendships with previous neighbors, family, friends and co workers.

Alice R. VAWTER Costa, age 76, passed away April 28, 2014 at Grace Healthcare-Cordova, TN. She is survived by her husband, James Costa of Cordova; her sister, Joyce Fry of Lavinia, TN; two daughters, Cynthia Massingill of Memphis and Caryn Graffo of Humble, TX; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Alice retired from the insurance industry and was active in local municipal sports until the age of 65. The family will receive friends from 9 a.m. until service time at 10 a.m., Wednesday, April 30, at Memphis Funeral Home & Memorial Gardens, 3700 N. Germantown Rd., Bartlett, TN. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be sent to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Helen E. Vawter, 90, of Hazleton, Iowa died on Friday, May 2, 2014 at Oelwein Care Center in Oelwein. Interment: Woodlawn Cemetery, Oelwein, Iowa.

Helen Elsie Bieri was born on April 18, 1924 in Cresco, Iowa, the daughter of Niklaus & Marie (Jontsher) Bieri. She received her education at the Cresco schools. Helen was united in marriage to Gerald W. Vawter on February 12, 1944 at the Shelfield Air Force Chapel in Mt. Clemons, Michigan. Helen was a homemaker and longtime Hazleton resident. She worked at the Coast-To-Coast Store in Oelwein, McCarty Upholstery in Oelwein and later at Country Air Upholstery. With her husband and daughter-in-law, Shirley, she started Vawter's Personalized Upholstery in Hazleton in 1988 until she retired in 2003. Helen was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and Study Club until the church closed. She was currently a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Oelwein. She enjoyed gardening, spending time outdoors and spending time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Helen is survived by her 2 Sons: Kenneth (Linda) Vawter of Newhall & Ronald (Shirley) Vawter of Hazleton; 4 Grandchildren: Charity (David) Erdelt, Kelcy (Aaron) Brecht, Ryan (Shelly) Vawter & Eric Vawter; 8 Great Grandchildren: Dylan Erdelt, Emily Erdelt, Logan Miculinich & Cole Miculinich, Brody Brecht, Adyson Brecht, Morgan Vawter, Madelynn Vawter; Brother: Raymond (Gladys) Bieri of Cresco and a Very Special Friend: John Derr of Hazleton.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents, husband: Gerald on October 13, 1993, an infant daughter, son: Michael on June 2, 2010, granddaughter: Hope Miculinich on January 31, 2007 and a sister: Hermina Curtis.

Dorothy N. Vawter December 31, 1932 - March 9, 2014 Dorothy passed away Sunday, March 9, 2014 in Hannibal, Missouri. Dorothy will be cremated and brought back to Coin, Iowa for burial in Elmwood Cemetery at a later date.

Vawter, Dellis R. "Ray", age 86, of Moundsville, WV died Saturday, April 12, 2014 at Reynolds Memorial Hospital, Glen Dale, WV.

He was born on November 11, 1927 in Buckhannon, WV a son of the late Denzle Ray and June Matilda Pennington Vawter.

Dellis was a retired coal miner at the Consol Energy Shoemaker Mine; was a member of the Cornerstone Church of God, Moundsville; a U.S. Navy veteran proudly serving in WWII and Korean Conflict aboard U.S.S. Kearsarge; a member of the V.F.W. Post #437, Moundsville; member of the American Legion Post #3, Moundsville; a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge #9, Wheeling, WV. He was an avid bowler; loved fishing and hunting and especially loved his "adopted grandchildren". Dellis was also known for his generosity within the community. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Joanna Smith Vawter in 2005; two sons: Bernard Vawter and Brian Heath Vawter; one sister: Bertha Cockran; five brothers: Ray Barl, Basil Jr., George Harris, Leonard Wayne and Richard Boyd and his puppy, Joe.

Survivors include four sisters: Virginia Arenz and Donna Harris both of Pennsylvania, Sheila Fortin of Canada and Vonda Brown of Virginia; grandchildren: Rebecca (James) Davis, David (Shelly) Conner, Roy Conner, Jesse Conner, Lori (Greg) Preston and Michelle (John) Raymond; several great grandchildren; many nieces and nephews and a special friend that was like a "sister": Loretta Conner.

Family will receive friends Tuesday from 6-8 p.m. and Wednesday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the Grisell Funeral Home and Crematory, 400 Jefferson Ave., Moundsville where funeral services will be held Thursday at 11:00 a.m. at the funeral home with Pastor Ron Wilfong officiating.

Interment will be in the Halcyon Hills Memorial Garden, Sherrard, WV where the Moundsville Honor Guard will conduct military services

Mary Frances Posey DuBose Vawter, age 83 of Morris, AL was born August 10, 1930 and passed away on Sunday, May 4th, 2014. She was a loving and wonderful wife, mother, and grandmother who was very much loved and will be greatly missed. She is preceded in death by her parents, Clive C. and Frances Elam Posey; husbands, Lewis A. Dubose, Jr. and John S. "Jake" Vawter; her son, Michael Lewis DuBose; and a brother, Clive C. Posey, Jr. She is survived by her loving family, a son, Dennis C. DuBose (Judy); her daughter, Sylvia DuBose Sullins (Ken); grandchildren, Tracie Hammond (Hal), Erin Slone (Chad), Jessica DuBose (Zachary), Jennifer Melton.

Wanda L. Vawter, 85, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, departed from this life on Tuesday, April 1, 2014. She was born on October 7, 1928 in Stillwater, Oklahoma to Claude and Venus (Disney) French. Wanda married Elbert Vawter on July 12, 1973 in Tulsa.

She worked as a sales clerk for a number of years before retiring. Wanda was a loving mother and grandmother who always made sure that no one ever left her home hungry. She had a keen sense of humor and would find it humorous that she passed away on April Fool's Day. The family is comforted knowing that she will be reunited once again with her dear husband, Elbert. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Elbert; parents, Claude and Venus French; sisters, Lola and Gertrude.

Wanda is survived by children: Linda Hamel of Oklahoma City, Connie Landrum of Arkansas, Kathy Bacon of South Carolina; 7 grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren; 2 great-great grandchildren; brother, James of Albuquerque; niece, Audrey and nephew, Charles.

Crowne Plaza

401 W. Summit Hill Drive

Knoxville, TN 37902

Phone: 1-865-522-2600

- Extensive Fitness Center
- Full Service Restaurant
- Free Wireless High Speed Internet Access
- Guest Use Copy Machine
- Guest Use Fax Machine
- Indoor Heated Pool
- Porter / Bellman
- Valet Parking
- Cocktail Lounge



Reunion Rates:

\$94.00 + tax for 2 Double Beds / \$104.00 + tax for King

\$8.00 per day parking fee / \$10.00 per day for Valet Parking

WWW'S GOT TALENT

Who's in the mood for some pickin' and grinnin'?

Join us on Friday evening for a night devoted to fun and entertainment brought to you by family!!! Dust off your dancing shoes! Get your instruments in tune! Memorize those lines! Polish those vocals! What better place to showcase your talent than in front of family!!

A night for making memories with the ones we love!!

*Contact Michelle Alexander to sign up as a performer. (270) 519-1872 / mrax3@juno.com
(sound equipment/portable karaoke/keyboard available)*

EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

[HTTP://WWW.EASTTNHISTORY.ORG/](http://www.easttnhistory.org/)

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World's Fair Park

<http://worldsfairpark.org/>

Sunsphere

The Sunsphere, in Knoxville, Tennessee, is an 81.07 m high hexagonal steel truss structure, topped with a 23 m gold-colored glass sphere that served as the symbol of the 1982 World's Fair.

Splash Park

With everything from interactive fountains to a one-story-high geyser, the new World's Fair Park contains some of the most innovative and exciting water features to be found anywhere around. Echoing the wide variety of natural waters in our area, the man-made lakes, streams and cascading waterfalls add visual interest, auditory pleasure, and important focal points to an impressive and highly functional landscape design.

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IJAMS NATURE CENTER

([HTTP://IJAMS.ORG/](http://IJAMS.ORG/))

Come visit us and find out why people love Ijams so much! Ijams is a wild place filled with rocks, rivers, trees, trails, owls and salamanders. Visitors of all ages and ability can hike, bike, paddle, stroll, learn or simply enjoy the day. Ijams is a sanctuary for all visitors to learn and connect with the natural world and be made better by that connection – a place where living with the earth and caring for the earth become one and the same.

Admission Prices: Presentation and guided tours – included in registration / additional activities and rentals available

VVV Family Reunion
July 17-20, 2014
Knoxville, Tennessee

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1:00 – 5:30 PM Registration at the Crowne Plaza

6:00 PM Hospitality Gathering at Tyson Park

7:00 PM Site Committee Meeting (TBD)

8:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting (TBD)

Friday, July 18, 2014

8:30 – 9:30 AM Business Meeting (Crown Plaza – Salon C)

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10:30 AM Observation Deck at Sunsphere
Bradley’s Chocolate Factory
Mast General Store

12:30 – 1:30 PM Lunch On Your Own at a Local Downtown Restaurant

Optional Activities for the afternoon

1:30 PM Genealogy Session at East Tennessee Historical Society
Tour of the History Museum

2:00 PM Splash Park at World’s Fair Park

 Bike / Canoe Rentals at Ijams Nature Center
Appalachia Museum Tour
Norris Dam State Park
Knoxville Museum of Art
Blount Mansion
Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame
Cade’s Cove at Smoky Mountain National Park

6:00 PM VVV’s Got Talent Show & Meal at Bearden Banquet Hall (Hall
available for rehearsal and/or sound check at 5 PM if needed)

Saturday, July 19, 2014

9:30 AM Depart for Ijams Nature Center
10:00 AM Ijams Nature Center Presentation
Guided Hiking Tours
12:00 PM Catered Lunch at Ijams Nature Center

Optional Activities for the afternoon

1:00 PM Ropes Course at Ijams Nature Center
Bike / Canoe Rentals at Ijams Nature Center
Appalachia Museum Tour
Norris Dam State Park
Knoxville Museum of Art
Blount Mansion
Women's Basketball Hall of Fame
Cade's Cove at Smoky Mountain National Park
6:30 PM Annual VVV Banquet at Crowne Plaza (Salon C)

Sunday, July 20, 2014

9:00 AM Family Church Service at Crowne Plaza (Salon C)

Bridwell Library Manuscript Letters and Documents Collection

Ministerial Orders and Ordination Certificates

Fisher, Fred B., Local Preacher's License, 1902, July 15, Methodist Episcopal Church, North Indiana Annual Conference, Kokomo District, Grace Church Quarterly Conference, signed by H. N. Herrick, President, and Frank M. Vawter, Secretary, at Kokomo, Indiana. ADS

The Weekly Blade Whatcom, Washington Wednesday, February 11, 1903

Last

Wednesday morning at about 9:30 o'clock William C. VAWTER committed suicide in the city jail by hanging himself. VAWTER met Chief LOGSDON on the street the evening before and asked to be locked up for the night, as he had been on a big spree and was unwell and wanted to sleep it off. The man tore strips from off a blanket and made a rope of it, tied it around his neck and made it fast to the upper part of his cell. He was about 40 years of age and claimed to be a bartender and was supposed to be unmarried. VAWTER's body was taken charge of by Coroner NOICE, who prepared it for shipment to Indiana, where a brother and sister reside.

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Dues for 2014 (if not paid)	\$10.00
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Friday Tour of History Museum	\$3.00
Friday Lunch	On Your Own
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	\$15.00 (6-12)
Ijams Nature Center Presentation	\$20.00 (Adult)
(Includes Guided Tours and Meal)	\$15.00 (6-12)
Saturday Afternoon Activities	On Your Own
Saturday Night Banquet	\$35.00 (Adult)
	\$12.00 (Child)

Charles Vawter's Roeland Park, Kansas City, Missouri

The largest development in what later became Roeland Park was undertaken by Charles E. Vawter. While employed at Safety Federal Savings and Loan in Kansas City, Vawter became acquainted with a homebuilder. The two created a partnership, and in 1935, they began to build houses in the area of 48th and Belinder (now in Westwood).

By 1937 Vawter, who would become well acquainted with the Roe sisters, wanted to develop on a larger scale. Vawter was able to obtain land from the Roes that they had shielded from other developers for nearly two decades. The Roe sisters, Margaret and Isabella, liked Vawter, and gave him liberal terms. They were also "property poor" at the time and were ready to sell parts of their land holdings to ease their tax burden.

The corner of Vawter and Harding, Kansas City, MO is the only permanent reminder of Charles Vawter's commitment to the growth of Kansas City.

On June 5, 1937, the Charles E. Vawter Investment Company, Inc. was chartered in Kansas. On April 19, 1937, Vawter had signed a ten-year lease, with an option to buy, from Isabella Roe. The contract had a number of conditions: 1) Vawter was to obtain plat suggestions from the FHA by November 30, 1937, at his own expense; 2) plats could be filed only on land parcels he had paid for, "giving full consideration to the effect upon the whole tract;" 3) land not fully developed for residential purposes had to be kept and taxed as farm lands only; and 4) after December 31, 1937, Vawter had to pay all taxes and assessments on the land.

A schedule was drawn up specifying that Vawter was to purchase various size parcels, at \$1,000 per acre, beginning with 2 ½ to 5 acres by November 30, 1937, and escalating to a 40 to 50 acre purchase by March 31, 1942. The balance of the entire lease was to be purchased by March 31, 1947. Perhaps because of their ages, or perhaps because they wanted quick progress, the Roe sisters' contracts stated "Time is of the essence."

The developer was to pay street construction costs, but he was allowed to keep income from rental properties on the land after December 31, 1937.

On the same date, Margaret Roe signed a similar contract with Vawter for 120 acres north of Isabella's, to be sold on a similar schedule.

Isabella's contract firmly stated that Vawter was to "diligently pursue the development and sale of such lands...consistent with good business..., and not limited by the agreement." If the developer became bankrupt, the contract was void and none of Vawter's heirs or creditors had any claim on the land. Vawter was barred from assigning any portion of the lands to another developer. Default

on any terms in either contract voided both. Katherine (Kate) Roe was a lawyer; although she practiced in Chicago, she helped to word contracts handled by their Kansas City attorney.

Vawter's plan was to build 1200 homes on 280 acres of Roe land. The first plat was called Roeland Park and was filed September 7, 1937. The second plat, on the east side of Nall from 51st Street to 55th Street, was filed September 16, and the first homes were built on the east side of Nall.

Vawter, in giving these subdivisions the Roe name, was paying tribute to the legendary Johnson County settler whose land Vawter purchased. Those subdivisions, the original incorporated area, gave their name to the city of Roeland Park.

Deed restrictions in the Roeland Park subdivisions permitted only single family homes with a garage "for not more than three cars." Only members of the white race could own or occupy the dwellings, and no trailer, basement house, or barn could be used as a temporary residence.

A one-story home was required to have 700 square feet; a two-story home had to have 600 square feet on the ground floor. Setbacks were to be between 25-40 feet. Lots averaged 65 by 135 feet. Houses were in the \$4,500 bracket. Perhaps because some residents in older areas kept animals, restrictions prohibited keeping "cows, horses, swine, sheep, goats," and poultry "for commercial purposes."

These restrictions were to stay with the land until July 1962 and would automatically renew for 25 year periods unless a majority of owners agreed, five years in advance, that the restrictions should change.

A Homes Association Declaration was filed in Johnson County the same date as the first plat. It reads much like other such documents, with the association required to develop and maintain streets; plant and care for greenery in public places; and provide the means for public utilities; septic tank disposal, and trash collection. Homeowner dues were to begin January 1, 1939, and unpaid dues counted as a lien on the property, a policy developer J.C. Nichols also practiced. A primary purpose of the association was to enforce restrictions in an area Vawter and Isabella Roe intended as a "residence neighborhood possessing features of more than ordinary value..."

1940s Bring Incredible Growth

Soon after World War II started, Vawter was caught with a shortage of building materials and some partially built homes. The government approved completion of the houses only after he agreed to hold these houses aside for rental by defense workers, especially those workers from the North American Aviation plant in Kansas City, Kansas. Vawter could not sell the houses until after the war ended. By that time, Vawter homes, popular with renting GIs, sold for about \$8,000 to \$12,000.

Key marks of Vawter's pre-war houses are stone foundations and partial stone veneers on the front, with the exception of his "slab houses," which had a concrete slab with no basement. After the war, reportedly due to a shortage of stone masons, basement foundations became concrete and houses had little or no stonework.

The suburban city became a study in contrasts. Early neighborhoods east and northeast of Vawter's project resulted in an eclectic array of homes, some built on large wooded lots. People moved there to enjoy a bit of "country life," with few paved roads, fewer of the smells and sounds found in the city, and lots of open land.

Those areas contrasted with the suburban subdivisions of Roeland Park, Roe Highlands, and Roe Manor Heights that Vawter built. By 1945, many houses were clustered together along paved streets, and new schools and churches were built to accommodate large numbers of newcomers. With the influx of more people, shopping became more viable and plans were made to develop a Roeland Park Shopping Center.

Around this time, Mission was planning to incorporate, which brought more changes to Roeland Park. To prevent his developments from being annexed by Mission, Vawter persuaded the Board of Directors of the Roeland Park Homes Association that Roeland Park should incorporate. On July 2, 1951, the City of Roeland Park was incorporated as a Third Class City, with a population of approximately 1875.

Johnson County Museum photo of desk blotter printed with advertisement for Charles E. Vawter Investment Co., sellers of real estate in Roeland Park, KS. Handwritten at the top is 1946, Photo shows a bungalow and a two story house for sale.

1946

CLOSE IN—JOHNSON COUNTY

ROELAND PARK

Quality Homes For All Buyers
VETERANS AND NON-VETERANS

BUNGALOWS
In Both 2 and 3 Bedroom Plans
Low Taxes

All constructed of kiln dried and seasoned lumber — fully insulated — Koehler and Standard Plumbing — Full basements — Gas Heat, Sewers and Permanent Streets.

2-STORY HOUSES
Have 3 Bedrooms with 1½ or 2 Full Baths
City Conveniences

"DON" WESTON
SALESMAN

CHAS. E. VAWTER INV. CO.
5500 ROE BLVD. LOGAN 8005 KANSAS CITY, KANS.

APPROVED FINANCING

Mrs. Jessie R. Vawter: Widow of Roeland Park Developer Dies of Cancer

Photo and obituary for Mrs. Jessie Vawter, "58, widow of Charles Edward Vawter [or Charles Vawter], developer of Roeland Park in Johnson County." Mrs. Vawter a native of Saint Louis raised in Kansas City with residence at 435 West 55th Street.

Source: Kansas City Star,

Date: January/23/1956

Page(s): 17

Location: Vertical File: Residential Districts--Roeland Park

Illustrations: No

Subjects: Vawter, Charles E., Roeland Park, Kansas,

Item Type: Citation - Newspaper

Item ID: 120208

CAMPBELL COUNTY, VA - HISTORY – Campbell Chronicles and Family In the Public Eye
CAMPBELL CHRONICLES and FAMILY SKETCHES

Embracing the History of CAMPBELL COUNTY, VIRGINIA 1782-1926

By R. H. EARLY With Illustrations J. P. BELL COMPANY LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA 1927

Young Poet - The earliest Lynchburg poet, of whom record is found, was Bransford Vawter, son of a tailor who was among the first settlers in the town. Born in 1816, he early developed talents of a superior order, and his death at the age of twenty-three, was a disappointment to his many friends. Even though so young he was made an officer in a military company called "Invincibles," and president of the Patrick Henry Debating Society. It was thought he would have attained high rank as a poet had he lived. His poems were not collected in book form, but he was a contributor to the Southern Literary Messenger and a few of his writings have been preserved, which are considered best specimens from his pen. One of these was copied into other magazines and, set to music, was circulated over the states, though few knew its authorship, which became revealed through the offer of a prize upon announcement of the writer's name. It was said to have been inspired by an unhappy attachment to a Lynchburg lady; but appeared in print without heading as well as without signature. The plaintive lines suggest the chivalrous feeling which prompted them and are as follows:

"I'd offer thee this hand of mine
If I could love thee less,
But hearts so warm, so fond as thine,
Should never know distress.
My fortune is too hard for thee,
"Twould chill thy dearest joy;
I'd rather weep to see thee free,
Than win thee to destroy.

"I love thee in thy happiness,
As one too dear to love,
As one I think of but to bless
As wretchedly I rove.
And oh! when sorrow's cup I drink
All bitter though it be,
How sweet 'twill be for me to think
It holds no drop for thee.

"And now my dreams are sadly o'er,
Fate bids them all depart,
And I must leave my native shore,
In brokenness of heart.
And oh! dear one! when far from thee
I ne'er know joy again
I would not that one thought of me
Should give thy bosom pain."

A later Lynchburg poet, Cornelia J. Matthews-Jordan, has bequeathed "The Grave of Bransford Vawter," thus memorializing his burial place in the old Methodist cemetery. Mrs. Jordan's poems were collected together by her daughter, Mrs. Theresa Ambler; many of them written during the war period of 1861-'65 are characterized by the pathos of ever recurring tragedy which fell to the share of the community that had contributed its quota of victims to shot and shell.



FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Website: www.vawterfamily.org

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

September 2014 Volume 38 No 3

Reunion Dates:

N. Virginia near Vauter's Church July 16-19 2015

Bentonville, Arkansas July 14-17, 2016

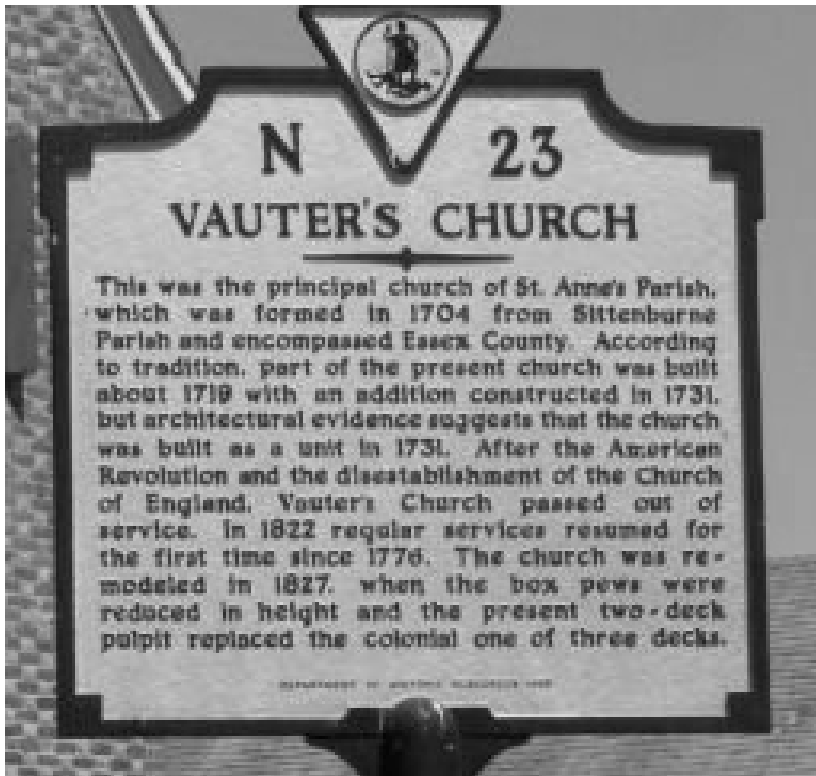
Central Texas July 2017

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If you haven't paid your dues this year, please send your check to the
VVV Treasurer Jordan Johnston. Only.....**\$10.00 per year**



Exciting plans are being made for our semi decade event at the Vauter's Church in Loretto, VA

The church hosts our group with special tours of the church and the nearby glebe (parsonage). Some of these are on private property and are only available to us. Mark your calendars for a special trip and event during July 16-19, 2015.

Hotels and events will be posted in the December newsletter

In Memoriam

Gladys June Vawter, 85, of Fresno went to heaven on Saturday, July 26, 2014 which was also her 67th wedding anniversary. She was born in Reedley, California to Alice Baker Emler and Rollie Emler. She married her partner in life, Paul Vawter, on July 26, 1947. Her love for her grandchildren, Christmas, and her strong faith will be greatly missed. Gladys is survived by her husband Paul Vawter; three children, Janice Vawter, Annette Smith and husband David, and Paul Vawter II. Gladys was also the proud grandmother of Alexandria, PJ, Maggie, Nicholas and Jax. She was a very loving aunt to many nieces and nephews

Jeffrey W. Vawter, 54 of Newport KY passed away July 22, 2014. He is survived by his daughters Tashina France (Cincinnati, OH), Justina Vawter (Dayton, KY), Kristina Vawter (Hebron, KY) and seven grandchildren. His mother Connie Vawter (Dayton, KY), brothers Marvin E. Vawter Jr. (St. Cloud FL), and Michael Vawter Sr. (Hamilton, OH), sisters Sue Adams (Ft. Mitchell, KY) and Niki Corbett (Erlanger, KY). He was preceded in death by his father Marvin E. Vawter Sr. and brother Steven Vawter.

Kokomo Tribune. **Iona V. Vawter**, 92, Russiaville, passed away at 6:16 p.m. Tuesday, June 3, 2014, at IU Health Tipton Hospital. She was born Dec. 19, 1921, in Prairie Township in Tipton County, to Walter and Dorothy (Jarrett) VanBriggle. On Aug. 24, 1937, Iona married Dale Vawter, and he passed away May 21, 1997.

Iona worked at Delco Electronics, retiring in 1988. She also worked at St. Joseph Hospital as a unit secretary. Iona was a member of Faith Church of Christ, Burlington, and UAW Local 292.

Survivors include children, Jerry (Sue) Vawter, Windfall, Beulah (Clay) Chandler, Kokomo, Sue (Ted) Orem, Forest, Chet (Helen) Vawter, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and Claude (Ruth) Vawter, Russiaville; stepson, Bill (Mata) Vawter, Speedway; sister, Frances Fisher, Flora; 15 grandchildren; 39 great grandchildren; 46 great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Walter and Dorothy VanBriggle; husband, Dale Vawter; daughter, Linda Vawter; six brothers; three sisters, and one granddaughter.

Jack Velmar Vawter born October 17, 1918 and was a long time resident of San Francisco. He lived to be 96 years old and passed away June 3, 2014. He was surrounded by loved ones, Jack will be missed by family and friends in San Mateo, CA

Freda M. (Vawter) Munkvold, age 72, of Lesterville, South Dakota, died Friday, June 13, 2014, at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton, South Dakota. There will be a gathering of friends and family at 2:30 PM, on Saturday, June 21, 2014 at the Munkvold residence in Alta Loma, CA.

Survivors include her husband, Larry Kline of Lesterville, SD; daughter Cindy Munkvold of Alta Loma, CA; son, Rich (Danette) Munkvold of Alta Loma; eight grandchildren; one great granddaughter; brother, Garry Vawter of Hesperia, CA; and sister, Glenna Swinburn of Hesperia. She was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Dale Vawter.

GALENA, Kan. — **Lt. Col. Raymond Macy Vawter**, U.S. Army, Ret., age 84, of Galena, Kan., passed away at 2:25 a.m. on Friday, May 16, 2014, at Freeman West Hospital in Joplin, Mo., after a sudden illness.

Born March 28, 1930, in Oakley, Kan., he was the son of the late E.Y. and Mae Marecek Vawter and grew up in Garden City, Kan., where he graduated from high school in 1948. He graduated from Kansas State University in January 1953 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. He was also a member of the KSU men's basketball team. Upon graduation, he was commissioned as an officer in The United States Regular Army. He served in the Army Corps of Engineers from 1953 to 1973. He taught ROTC at the University of Iowa from 1956 to 1958 and received his Master's Degree from Iowa State University in 1963. He was a veteran of the Korean War and served two tours in Vietnam.

After retiring from the Army, he was a longtime resident of Frankfort, Kan., Rock Springs, Wyo. and Bella Vista, Ark. He was a member of the Masons, Lions Club and Rotary Club. He was an EMT for the Frankfort Volunteer Ambulance Service. At age 54, he went back to school at Garden City Community College and became a Registered Nurse. He worked as a nurse for 12 years. He was also a member of Our Savior Anglican Church, Joplin.

On July 5, 1953, he married Peggy Joan Meyers. She preceded him in death Sept. 25, 2013.

Survivors include a son, Jon Vawter and wife, Angela, of Overland Park, Kan., along with their son, Jackson; a daughter, Karen Fowler and husband, Russell, of Bella Vista, Ark., along with children, Macey Brake, Kyle Fowler and wife, Margret and Kristian Fowler Addison; four great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

Cornell Alumni News, Vo. 30, Sep 1, 1927 thru Aug 31, 1928

'05 AB—William A. Vawter, 2d, has sold the Baker-Vawter Company, of which he had been president for six years, to the new Remington-Rand Inc., a company composed of Rand-Kardex, the Remington Typewriter Company, the Dalton Adding Machine Company, the Library Bureau, and the Baker-Vawter Company. Vawter is secretary of the new company. His address is Benton Harbor, Mich., although at present he is spending much of his time in Buffalo.

Clay Co., TX - History: Byers High School Yearbook 1923

USGenWeb Archives. Copyright. All rights reserved.

The following individuals are identified in the 1923 Hornet, the first yearbook of Byers High School, Byers, TX. Class status was listed only for juniors and seniors.

Vaughter, Gordon, jr

Vaughter, Hall, sr

One Attendee's Highlights –2014 VVV Association Reunion

Thursday evening Michelle & Mike Alexander and Jerry & Shirley Beasley hosted picnic for early arrivals to the reunion---and it didn't rain.

Friday morning the free trolley took family to the Sunsphere where from the Observation Deck we could look out over the city of Knoxville. All enjoyed shopping at the Mast General Store which had many items reminding us of earlier times.

At the East Tennessee Historical Society, "Kentucky-Tennessee Origins" was presented by Dr. George Schweitzer of the University of Tennessee. In half an hour he gave a short history on main migration routes of our ancestors from the colonies into more western territories. Then he toured us through the museum emphasizing the historical happenings he has explained earlier. For genealogists, the East Tennessee Historical Society has extensive research genealogy records.

Friday evening the family had a wonderful dinner at Bearden Banquet Hall with entertainment provided by family. Jason Vawter played many of the family's favorites on his violin. Fred Wicker and Phil Vaughter told wonderful, usually humorous, stories or tall tales. Roger Wicker presented a campaign speech by old, renown Mississippi politician. Roger Wicker and Becca Cummings led the family in video recording of the family to the song "Happy."

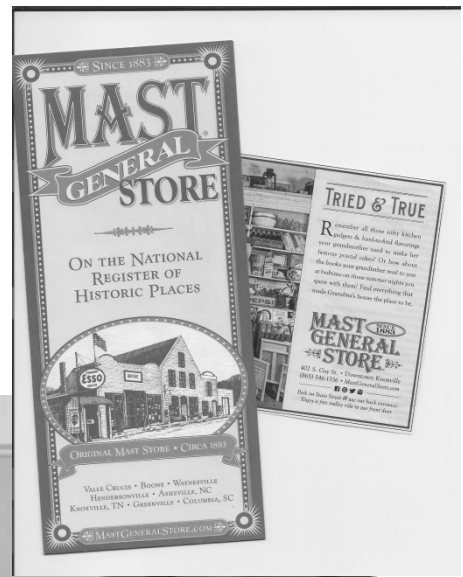
At the Ijams Nature Center, a nature specialist educated the family on the nature center, the area's plants and animals. He introduced an albino snake and owl, and then took us on a short nature walk—between rain storms.





Vawter Reunion July 2014

Some of our tours and events at Knoxville, TN



Vawter Vauter Vaughter Family Association Banquet
The 38th Annual Reunion was Dedicated in Memory of John Homer Vawter, Jr, &
JW (John Wesley) Vawter, Sr, Past Presidents.

July 19, 2014 in Knoxville, Tennessee

Hosted by Michelle Alexander and Shirley Beasley. Power-point picture presentation from past reunion by Bruce Vawter

Welcome by President Connie Bugos

Prayer by Phil Vaughter

Meal: Herbed chicken with mushroom gravy, rice pilaf, roasted veggies, garden salad, cheesecake with chocolate & strawberry topping, cash bar

Memorial Service was presented by Ellen Wicker Cummings. Fred Wicker read scripture originally read at the VVV first reunion memorial service by Rev. Fall from Vauter Church. Flowers were placed by Kailey Chaviers and Elizabeth Hale. Jason Vawter accompanied on violin. Michelle Alexander signed hymn.

Those remembered: James Doyle Vawter (2/7/1954—9/12/2013); Matthew James Vawter (8/7/1984—10/28/2013); Richard Quinton Vawter (Died 10/21/2013); Peggy Joan Meyers Vawter (3/31/1932-10/25/2013); Marvin D Vawter (9/25/1918—9/4/2013); Roland F Vawter (7/13/1929); Wanda Nadine Vawter Hulett Gould (9/10/1922--3/2/2013); Alice R Vawter Costa (Died 4/28/2014); Helen E Vawter (4/18/1924—5/2/2014); Dorothy N Vawter (Died 3/3/2014); Dellis R “Ray” Vawter (11/11/1927—4/12/2014); Mary Frances Posey DuBose Vawter (8/10/1930—5/4/2014); Wanda L Vawter (10/7/1928—4/1/2014); Raymond Clyde Powell (7/31/1952—1/19/2014); Caroline Field Fisher Vawter (5/31/1923—12/20/2013); Judith Crawford (8/29/1939—8/31/2013); John Homer Vawter, Jr (5/20/1932—11/24/2013); “JW” John Wesley Vawter, Sr (8/4/1957—12/18/2013)

Military veterans were asked to stand and be recognized.

Youngest attending:

Stafford Thomas Cummings and Corinne Ariana Smith, 5-month olds

Oldest attending: Fred Wicker 90

Married longest: Norma & Ken Wicker, 59 years

Traveled farthest: Garry Vawter, 2108 miles from California

Past Presidents attending: Garry Vawter, “Bobbee” Robert L. Vawter, Ken Wicker, Phil Vaughter, Jordan Johnston, Shirley Beasley

Nominations were presented by Fred Wicker: Darren Welch, Vice President; Bruce Vawter, President; Jordan Johnston, Treasurer; Secretary, Becky Guinagh.

Roll-call of states: Mississippi had largest group, 11. Other states, Arizona, California, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia

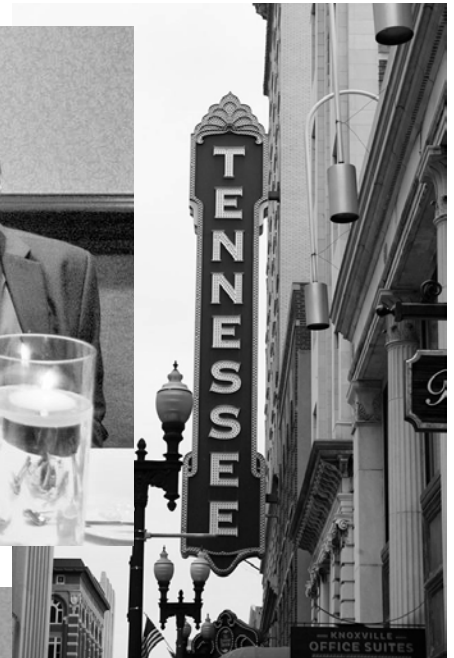
Vawter Church Love Offering: \$692

Site report: 2015 Reunion will be returning to Virginia. Tappahannock reunion will be July 16-18, hosted by Ellen Wicker Cummings. In 2016 the reunion will be hosted by Chad Bugos in Bentonville, Arkansas. Tentative location for 2017 is San Antonio, Texas.

Door Prizes: Managed by Jerry & Shirley Beasley Auction was managed by Norma & Ken Wicker.

Garry Vawter made a motion to dedicate the 38th VVV Association Reunion to John Homer Vawter, Jr, and "JW" John Wesley Vawter, Sr, two past presidents of the association who died this year. It was seconded and approved unanimously. President Connie Bugos handed over the President's gavel to Bruce Vawter, the incoming president of the VVV Association.

Adjourned Becky Guinagh



Valletort (Vawter) and Hawkins Connections.



Bartholomew Vawter and John Hawkins lived next to each other in Virginia and their families were friends for generations. One of the Hawkins line purchased the Vawter castle (Trementon) in England. It is believed that John Hawkins of VA was a direct descendant of these people and the Vawter lines are also descendants of the area. While no proof of a connection is yet proved, it is reasonable to assume their move to VA was not an accident. This connection may be the key to unlocking the name of Bartholomew's parents.

William Hawkins, son of John (1), was born at Plymouth England. William, besides being an officer in King Henry VII's (1485-1509), Navy, owned his own 200 ton boat which was named the Paul of Plymouth and owned a large amount of property there. He was a Receiver in Plymouth in 1527-28 and defended the Argosy against the French. He was Mayor of Plymouth in 1532-33 and again in 1538-39. William married Joan Trelawny, daughter of Roger Trelawny of Brightorre. They had two sons, William, and John (2).

Until the mid-1500's the name was spelled Hawkyns. -----

A branch of the Hawkynses of Nash Court probably settled in Plymouth during the fifteenth century. John Hawkins held lands in the town under the Corporation before 1480, and was dead by or before 1490, when his heirs held them. This was before the Hawkynses were at Tavistock. William Hawkins, son of John Hawkins (who had lived at Tavistock), and Joan, daughter of William Amadas, of Launceton, was born

probably at Plymouth towards the end of the fifteenth century. He was an officer in the navy of King Henry VIII. Being one of the principal sea captains in the West of England, he obtained a high and just reputation for his skill and experience, and was held in great esteem and favour by the KING.

He is thought to be the same Hawkins who in 1513 was master of the "Great Galley," one of the few Royal ships of that time.

William was a sea Captain and owner of considerable property in Plymouth, where he was named Mayor in the 1530s and elected member of Parliament in 1539. He began his career as a merchant, exporting cloth and tin and importing salt, wines, sugar and pepper, olive oil from Europe. His first voyage was to Guinea for ivory and pepper and Brazil for wood in 1530. He made three famous voyages to Brazil, bringing a native King to see Henry VIII (he died en route home). In 1544 he purchased the Manor of Sutton Valletort or Vawter, which remained in the family until 1637/8. "He was a man of his time, a rough, hard hitting, coarse tongued time."

William and Joan were married 1553/4. Joan was the only child and heiress of Roger Trelawny of Brightorre, son of John Trelawny and grandson of Sir John Trelawny and Blanche Pownde.

Children: William, Ship owner and sea captain, m. (2) Joan Tothill, d. 10/7/1589. He laid the foundation of the Indian Empire and was Ambassador to the court of the great Mogul, 1608.

There are several books about the Hawkins family and their exploits. One is called 'Plymouth Armada Heroes: The Hawkins Family' by Mary W. S. Hawkins published in Plymouth, England, in 1888 and found in the State Library called Sutro in San Francisco, and on microfiche in the Carlsbad Genealogical Library. In her book Mary states that 'Plymouth was the home or birthplace, not of one distinguished sailor of the Hawkins family only, but of three generations in succession, of men who were celebrated as naval heroes for a period of one hundred years, extending over the reigns of Henry VIII, Edward VI, Queen Mary, Queen Elizabeth, and James I. For three generations they were the master spirits of Plymouth in its most illustrious days; its leading merchants, its bravest sailors, serving oft and well in the civic chair and in the House of Commons.

For three generations they were in the van of English seamanship; founders of England's commerce in south and west and east: stout in fight, of quenchless spirit in adventure-a family of merchants, statesmen, and heroes, to whom our county has no parallel.' In the several books there listed many exploits of the three generations. William was a man of considerable property in the town of Plymouth. He was Receiver of Plymouth in 1524-1525; and in the Corporation books is mentioned in 1527-28 when he and others manned the bulwarks to defend the argosy against the French. William owned a 200-ton ship called the Paul of Plymouth. He made his third voyage in 1532 and on his return was chosen Mayor of Plymouth. He was again Mayor in 1538-9; In 1539 he was elected Burgess (member of Parliament) with James Horewell. In 1544 William purchased the Manor of Sutton Valletort or Vawler which remained in the Hawkins family for 100 years.

The Helena Daily Independent, Sunday, May 29, 1932 by A. Nash

PIONEER MINING MAN RELATES INTERESTING STORIES OF THE LAST CHANCE GULCH AND LINCOLN PLACERS OF EARLY DAY

Long, long ago when the earth was much younger than it is now, Mother Nature hid a considerable part of her treasure in Last Chance gulch. Other hiding places she found in Lewis and Clark County, as it is bounded now. This treasure was in the form of yellow nuggets and shining dust which men call gold – the magic word which brings the crowd when treasure is discovered. You may know something of the value of this dust when you learn that one hiding place near Lincoln, Montana, gave up about \$7,000,000 worth of the precious metal. Another hiding place was discovered at Marysville, in the same county, yielding several millions of wealth, and more of it is still, being recovered at each of the locations mentioned.

“When God made the hills and the mountains,
The gold was thrust under their sides;
Or scattered in dust by the fountains.
Where nature still provides.”

In the rocks of the towering mountains around Helena, vast fortunes in gold were hidden. These rocks were gnawed and milled by the teeth of time, and fortunes have been garnered from the debris, in Last Chance gulch. Other fortunes are now being blasted out of the rocks. For a thousand years in the future, men will still be recovering and selling this flashing, shining dust which seems to be so very necessary in making the wheels of trade go around. Little difficulty do they find in selling it after it has been recovered. Up to the United States assay office the miner carries his bag of dust. There it is very carefully weighed, melted, assayed and paid for on a basis of \$20.00 per ounce of pure gold. Very little of it is pure, but the assay shows the percentage of pure stuff.

In 1863 some roving miners found the colors in the gravel beds. In the gulch, near where Edwards street corners into Main street in Helena. Nearby on Broadway, in 1865, a pioneer merchant, John G. Vawter decided to locate. He chose the site at the corner of Broadway and Jackson streets. There he erected a building of native stone and stocked it with groceries which he shipped from St. Louis, Missouri, up the Missouri river to Fort Benton; and freighted from Fort Benton to Helena.

His success seems easy to us now, but he had many obstacles to overcome. In order to wash out the gold from the gravel beds, the miners needed three square meals every day. Col. Vawter was ready and willing to supply the groceries from which the three squares might be prepared. So he helped the miners and they in turn helped his business to prosper. It is not likely that Col. Vawter was commissioned as a colonel, but he was a native Kentuckian, and many of his friends gave him the honorary Kentucky title.

The difficulty arose, chiefly in trying to get the supplies into Helena. Slowly moving bull teams tolled over rough and muddy roads, dragging heavy loads from Fort Benton. One trip overland required 10 days time or more. Some of the freighters had good mule teams, and could make the trip in about one week. Soon the Union Pacific railroad was completed to Corinne, Utah, and freighters began to move a string of freight wagons over rough roads from Corinne to Butte and Helena. The wagons were loaded with supplies to feed hungry miners in the gulch.

Soon big covered wagons were bringing recruits for the camp. Some of them carried the slogan “Last Chance gulch or bust,” painted on the wagon covers. Those were the days when business was booming in the little mining camp at the foot of Mount Helena, Colonel Vawter’s invoice showed \$14,000 net profit in one year. Sugar was retailed in those times at five pounds for \$1. Flour sometimes sold as high as \$50 per sack and even more when the supply was low.

Some of the men afterward prominent arrived here about that time. Among others were A. M. Hollier and Uncle Joe Horsky. Each of them accumulated a fortune by good business methods and good investments. Uncle Joe was pleased to tell his friends, as his time drew near the close, that he had spend 65 winters in Helena. He failed to finish the 66th winter here, because the death angel led him gently home before the spring days came in 1931. Because those hardly pioneers are passing on, one by one, there is ample reason why these pioneer stories should be published now. They are stories of men who did their part well in helping to build the great state of Montana.

The Overland Stage

Col. John G. Vawter continued to prosper in business in Helena. In 1871 he made a trip back to Illinois, by

way of stage coach to Corinne, Utah, and there on the Union Pacific railway. He returned in the spring of 1872, bringing his son, John G. Vawter, Jr. with him. He was a husky youngster less than 12 years of age and weighing about 200 pounds. They traveled from Corinne on the old overland stage coach line, owned by Gilmer, Salisbury and company. The agent at Corinne was named Tim Henderson. He looked the boy over when they were ready to start and then he smiled and said "Colonel you can ride for half fare, but this boy will have to pay the full fare."

They traveled from Corinne to Malad, Idaho, where they had supper. Teams were changed and they hurried on over the low mountain range to Marsh creek valley and then down the valley over the old toll road to Harkness station on the Portneuf river. Near the old stage station is now located the town of McCammon, Idaho. At the station teams were changed, the passengers had breakfast and the driver settled the toll charges with Mrs. Harkness. They hurried on without sleep to Pocatello and on to Eagle Rock, now Idaho Falls. There they crossed the Snake River and sped on over Pleasant Valley pass, down Redrock canyon to Dillon, which was not a town at that time. They went over Boulder hill to the town of Boulder; then by way of Jefferson City and Clancy and on into Helena.

Teams were changed on the way at stations about 20 miles apart on an average. The time required for the trip was about 84 hours, or three and one-half days. There were no stops for sleeping on the way.

Young John G. Vawter was dressed with fur cap, buffalo pants and buffalo overcoat. He rode on the driver's seat with the heavy leather apron to hold him in place securely. In that way he put in many hours sleeping as they traveled along the way. His father was able to get some sleep on the seat inside the coach. They arrived in Helena on the evening of May 2, 1871. The stage carried mail, express and passengers. A stage coach, with four horses, left Corinne early every morning.

Six and sometimes eight horses were used in making the heavy grades. One of these stage coaches arrived in Helena about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Bad roads often caused delay in the time of arrival. Gilmer, Salisbury and company had about \$1,000,000 invested in equipping the line for business. Colonel Vawter had another son, C L Vawter, helping him in the store and he placed young John on the delivery wagon to pilot a team of mules.

A "Necktie Party"

One day some members of a Vigilante committee rushed into the store and asked Mr. Vawter for the use of the team and wagon for a brief time. An employee of the store, William Julius, was ordered to go with them and return the team. Two men had been condemned to hang. The Vigilantes hauled the victims over to the old trees east of Rodney street, fastened the rope ready for the final swing and the wagon pulled quickly from under their feet, leaving them suspended between the earth and the sky until they were dead. In this crude way was law and order enforced in the rushing, booming days in Last Chance gulch. The victims had been charged with murdering a rancher in the valley.

The last Journey

In 1877 Col. Vawter placed an order with the wholesale dealers in St. Louis for a load of groceries to be shipped by boat to Fort Benton. The old "Key West" was loaded, mostly with this order, and started up the Missouri river for Fort Benton, a 3,000 mile journey by the river route. Several days after it started on the trip, Col. Vawter and his son, John, boarded the boat at Yankton, Dakota territory, as it was then known. Fate had decreed that this should be the last trip for the pioneer merchant. The next morning after they started up the river, he complained that a pimple on the back of his neck was causing him trouble, and he requested his son to look at it and see what he could do to help. After inspection the son reported "no pimple there." A day or two later it had developed into a carbuncle of a malignant type. The merchant was suffering much pain, but he refused to land and seek the professional services of an army surgeon at one of the forts along the river. He regarded it as very important that he should go on to Fort Benton. An army surgeon boarded the boat at Fort Sully. He examined Col. Vawter and declared the case fraught with serious danger. He made the declaration that the patient would not reach Fort Benton alive. His advice was to land and seek medical attention at a hospital conveniently located near the Missouri river. Col. Vawter said to his son: "These doctors are trying to make me believe that I am going to die because of this little trouble on the back of my neck, but I am going on to Fort Benton." An army surgeon was secured at Fort Peck to accompany him on the trip to Fort Benton. When the boat reached a point near the mouth of the Musselshell river, the merchant passed peacefully away.

The son had the body removed from the boat and embalmed. He hired a swift courier to go on horseback, carrying the death message to Helena. John E. Vawter, a nephew, hurried back with the messenger carrying \$10,000 with him for expense money. The body was buried near the old home at Marengo, Illinois. He left an estate valued at \$50,000, which was divided among his legal heirs, a widow and four children. The old home still stands on Vawter street in this city, which was named in honor of the pioneer merchant. The old Elks' temple stands now on the lot where the store building was located in the boom days of Helena.

The Sons

C. L. Vawter and his brother, John G. Vawter, were stockholders in the Elk Horn Mining company, which owned a silver producing mine near Elk Horn, Mont., about 18 miles from Boulder. Associated with them A. M. Holter, J. H. Shober, John Kinna and M. N. Holter. C. L. Vawter was secretary and manager and Holter was president of the company. This mine produced about 1,000 ounces of silver daily for several years. Then it was sold to an English syndicate for \$500,000 cash. After that sale the Vawter brothers built the Merchants hotel at the corner of Broadway and Warren streets. They conducted a hotel business there for several years and Marcus Daly was often a guest there, when he had business in Helena. During the panic of 1893 their little fortune was wiped off the slate by the foreclosure of a mortgage.

C. L. Vawter secured appointment as US Marshal at Tanana, Alaska. His friend, the late Senator Thomas Carter, made it possible for him to secure the position. He remained there until after the close of the World war. He died in Los Angeles in 1926.

In the spring of 1880, the Alta Montana Mining company started development on the big scale near the place now known as Wickes.

Wm. W. Wickes was president of the company and Cole Saunders was vice president and managing director and Horace F. Brown was general superintendent. They started development of the Alta mine by building a 500 ton concentrator at a point about four miles south of Jefferson City. A stock of merchandise was needed and John G. Vawter formed a partnership with Thomas A. Wickes, a nephew of the president of the Alta company. A store building was erected and a stock of merchandise was freighted over from Helena. The Alta mine proved a bonanza. The concentrator proved a success. A town was built and named in honor of President Wickes. One day in June, 1881, at noon time, when the employees were off shift for lunch, a fire was discovered in the concentrator. It was a \$250,000 loss with very little insurance. Four hundred men were jobless and John G. Vawter found himself with a \$30,000 stock of merchandise on hand. He moved the stock to Jefferson City and sold it to Kleinschmidt Brothers at a sacrifice price. After that experience he secured work at Miles City, Montana, handling passengers, mail and express for the stage company. When the Northern Pacific railroad was completed into Miles City, the company took over the mail and express business and John Vawter came into Helena as messenger on the first express car that arrived in Helena.

After the Merchant's hotel was closed, John Vawter went to South Dakota as an employee in the station service of the Milwaukee railway. He located at Mobridge and remained there for 15 years. In 1909 he received a commission from President William Howard Taft as post master at Mobridge. He held the office until 1914, when President Wilson appointed his successor. Then he served as justice of the peace and US commissioner until 1923. He now makes his home near Helena and is still hale and hearty at the age of 72 years.

James R. Vawter Redwood City Tribune May, 1945 Redwood City, San Mateo County, California
Saturday, May 5, 1945 Probate Matters
Estate of James R. Vawter, ded. Petition for letters of administration

Vaughter Bridge, Tazwell Co., IL
South of Hwy 9 on Benson Rd, crosses a stream

Mary LARIMORE was born on 12 Feb 1795. She was also known as Polly.
Parents: James LARIMORE and Caty MORGAN.
Spouse: Joseph Earl VAWTER.



FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Website: www.vawterfamily.org

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

December 2014 Volume 38 No 4

Reunion Dates:

N. Virginia near Vauter's Church July 16-19 2015

Bentonville, Arkansas July 14-17, 2016

Central Texas July 2017

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Phone 314-849-8727 email fcsvawter@sbcglobal.net
- Vice President Darren Welch, 402 N Galeston Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46229
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Phone...830-510-4625 email pvrenton@vawterfamily.org



If you haven't paid your dues this year, please send your check to the
VVV Treasurer Jordan Johnston. Only.....**\$10.00 per year**



Exciting plans are being made for our semi decade event at the Vauter's Church in Loretto, VA

The church hosts our group with special tours of the church and the nearby glebe (parsonage). Some of these are on private property and are only available to us. Mark your calendars for a special trip and event during July 16-19, 2015.

Information about hotels and events for the 2015 reunion is not available at this time.

Picture shown is at the west door all original of the Vauter's Church

In Memoriam

Jack Velmar Vawter, October 17, 1918 to June 3, 2014. Jack was a long time resident of San Francisco, CA. He lived to be 96 years old and passed away surrounded by loved ones from all around.

VAWTER, Nancy H., 73, of Henrico County, went home to be with the Lord on September 9, 2014. She is survived by her husband, Fred Vawter; daughter and son-in-law, Susan and Jeff Bryant; granddaughter, Sarah Maxwell; niece, Ann Pulsifer and her husband, Steve; and a great-nephew, Matthew Pulsifer. A graveside service will be held Friday, September 12, at 11 a.m. in Hillcrest Cemetery, Louisa, Va. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Mount Vernon Baptist Church Building Fund, 11220 Nuckols Rd., Glen Allen, Va. 23059.

Phillip "Jerry" Gerald Vawter, 78, of Aubrey, passed away Sunday, September 14, 2014, at his home. He was born March 31, 1936, in El Centro, CA, to Robert and Juanell (Crouch) Vawter. Phillip married Gwen Elizabeth Clarke on May 10, 1963, in Escondido, CA. Jerry lived in the North Texas area since 1984, was a life member of The American Quarter Horse Association, and owner of Jerry Vawter Quarter Horses. He was a prominent breeder of Quarter Horses since 1960, having raised many World Champions and was one of the nation's leading breeders.

He is survived by his wife, Gwen, of Aubrey; son, Greg and wife Rubina Vawter of The Woodlands; daughter, Jamie Dunning of Frisco; five grandchildren, Tyler Dunning, Hayden Dunning, Nathan Dunning, Robert Vawter, Alexis Vawter; sister, Pam, and husband Jim Bruner of Oak Point; mother-in-law, Jean Clarke. He was preceded in death by his parents; granddaughter, Valeriana Vawter; son-in-law, Dale Dunning.

William Russell Vaughters died Wednesday, October 22, 2014, at Abbey Hospice in Social Circle, Georgia, from complications of a rare and progressive neurodegenerative condition, progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP). Mr. Vaughters was born November 3, 1949 in Morgan County, Georgia where he lived most of his life. He graduated from Morgan County High School in 1967, attended the University of Georgia in 1968, and was an agent for the National Life and Accident Insurance Company.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, Charles Carlton and Lillian Lankford Vaughters, a brother, Roy Lamar Vaughters, and a nephew, Kenneth Charles Vaughters. He is survived by his wife, Beryl Gilbert Vaughters and her children, Marci Porter Campbell of Watkinsville, Georgia, and Chip Porter of Madison, Georgia, his brothers, Charles Vaughters of Woodbridge, Virginia, and Kenneth Vaughters of Bostwick, Georgia, and 5 nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his friend and devoted caregiver, John Michael Barneycastle and his mother-in-law, Vivian Gilbert with whom he had a very special relationship.

Mark Ernest Vaughters. Mark was born on January 24, 1963 and passed away on Sunday, August 17, 2014. Mark was a resident of Wheelersburg, Ohio at the time of his passing. Private graveside services will be at the convenience of the family at Vaughters Family Cemetery.

Book - Within Her Power: Propertied Women in Colonial Virginia.

By Linda L. Sturtz. (New York: Routledge, 2002. xvi, 278 pp.)

Widowed Jane Vobe and Anne Pattison took up their husbands' tavern-keeping businesses; Elizabeth Vaulx managed her husband's five-hundred-acre farm and warehouses in his absence; Mary Durley corresponded with the Londoner Mary Parker to settle their trading accounts when their husbands died. A familiar enough picture of colonial women—if we are in New England. But these women lived in Virginia. Indeed, it is Linda L. Sturtz's objective to counter the current scholarship that emphasizes the overweening power of white men in colonial Virginia and to assert some female agency even in that patriarchal context.

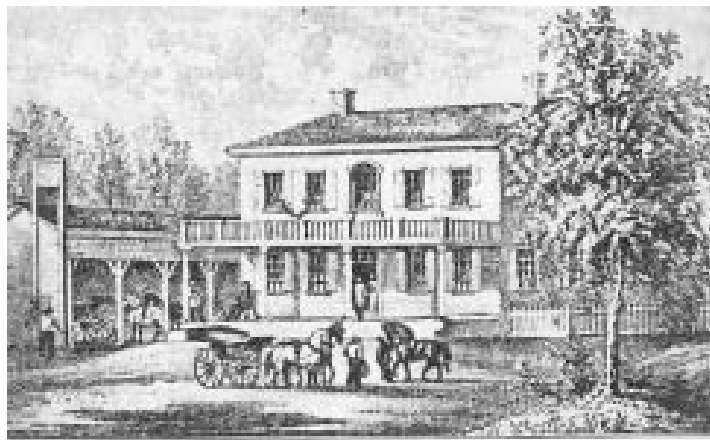
Her meticulous researches have yielded many examples of individual propertied women, although how to gauge their overall societal significance is not quite clear. Ultimately, while her book provides a new view and some important insights on colonial Virginian women, this reader remains impressed by the remarkable adaptability and strength of patriarchy through the colonial and revolutionary periods.

Other interesting early beverages

1660 – Many early ordinaries were owned by women. Life was rugged, and many men died young, leaving their widows to carry on their business. Women were very competent and reliable in business affairs. 1750 – Tea and coffee came into general use during the same period. Coffee houses were popping up everywhere. People loved the odor of roasting coffee beans. One of the most notable establishments was the Boston Exchange Coffee House. It was a frightening seven stories high. They kept a register of marine news, ship arrivals, departures; and many prominent naval officers were registered there. President Monroe stayed there in 1817.

1850 - Ginger Pop - was identical to ginger beer, only the term Pop was used to imply a soft drink for the Temperance Movement, even though it was brewed identical to ginger beer using yeast and sugar.

Root Beer was brewed from natural ingredients – hops, burdock, yellow dock, sarsaparilla, dandelion, and spikenard, plus oils of spruce and sassafras. “What's Updock?”



Buckhorn Tavern.

Vauter's Church Essex County, VA

Vawter's Church stands in Essex County on the north side of route 17, .5 mile west of the hamlet of Loretto and about 12.5 miles southeast of the junction of routes 17 and 301 near Port Royal. Vawter's Church is the second Upper Church of St. Anne's Parish, which was created in 1704 out of Sittingbourne Parish. This latter parish and Farnham Parish were formed in 1661 and, like Old Rappahannock County each of them included territory on both sides of the Rappahannock River. From the western portion of Sittingbourne Parish was created, about 1677, St. Mary's Parish. The name remaining on the north side, but in 1732 it ceased to exist when its upper part was combined with Hanover Parish in King George County and its lower section became part of the new Lunenburg parish in Richmond County. Rappahannock County also ceased to exist when it was divided into Essex and Richmond in 1692.

The first Upper Church of St. Anne's Parish was probably in existence sometime between 1704 and 1711 and was undoubtedly of frame construction. There were two Lower Churches in the parish in colonial times. A frame church that was standing on Occupacia Creek as early as 1664 or 1665 became the first of these Lower Churches of St Anne's in 1704, and was replaced sometimes between 1721 and 1739 by the second Lower Church. This latter church was known as Sale's Church and because the land represented a donation from Cornelius Sale.

The original portion of the church near Loretto is believed to have been built around 1719 and the south wing was added in 1731, as a brick above and to the right of the south doorway shows. The name, Vauter, is derived from that of a family whose land adjoined the site of the church when it was built, but just when this name was first used with the church, seems to be uncertain.

In 1713 the name of St. Mary's was retained by the southside parish when the parish was divided at the river and the northside parish became known as Hanover Parish. St Mary's Parish lay entirely within Caroline County when this county was formed in 1728 from the uppermost portions of Essex, King William, and King and Queen counties. The second parish church (1748) of St Mary's Parish was known as the Mount Church (named after a nearby creek) which from 1810 to 1835 housed the Rappahannock Academy. The site of the Mount Church and the academy lies five miles west of Port Royal on route 17.

VAUTER'S CHURCH, ST. ANNE'S PARISH, ESSEX COUNTY, VA. BY P. S. HUSTER, LORETTO, VA.

Of all the magnificent river views in Tidewater Virginia few excel that from the summit of Chimborazo hill, in upper Essex County. Commanding on one side long stretches of the beautiful Rappahannock, flowing through its fertile plains, it displays, on the other, thickly-wooded uplands in ascending terraces of richly blended verdure. But the most prominent object in the foreground is old Vauter's church, standing in its ancient grove of oak and walnut. It is approached by the "Church Lane," considerably elevated above the fields on either side, from the accumulation of soil washing down from the hills, and is bordered by dense hedges of growth so characteristic of the country, and in spring so exquisitely fragrant with the bloom of the wild grape and the eglantine.

The church is a brick building of cruciform shape, with its three high, sharp gables supporting a shingle roof, cut close to the edges of the wall. Its high and narrow windows are guarded by heavy solid wooden shutters, and there are two entrances to the church by double doors, in the south and the west ends. The present chancel, raised one step from the stone-paved aisles, is furnished now with two modern stands or lecterns for the service and sermon, but back against the wall there still stands the old reading desk and pulpit above it. The latter is reached by a stairway from the chancel floor, and this stairway is guarded by a hand-rail. Both pulpit and reading desk are draped in crimson hangings. The pews are the same old box stalls, with benches of uncompromising rigidity, and furnished with clanging doors, which announce the retirement of the occupants; but they have been cut down to nearly half of their former height. A vestibule partition crosses the western end of the church, forming a vestry room, and supporting a gallery reached by steps in the vestibule. Another gallery over the southern door is the organ loft. Formerly the chancel and pulpit stood in the eastern end of the church, and pews and pulpit were so high that both minister and congregation could enjoy deep seclusion.

Bishop Meade tells us in his book "Old Churches and Families of Virginia" that when visiting these old Colonial churches he frequently had to hasten his arrival, to erect temporary platforms of bricks or stones in the pulpits, to enable him to see the congregation; but the sermons of those days were so long and closely written that the minister had to be more engaged in the scrutiny of the manuscript than in the observation of the audience. In fact, from the shape of the church, the pulpit could be only visible from some points of the building. To complete the description of this venerable building, there is only to be added that its walls are covered by the most luxuriant mantle of English ivy, which is with difficulty restrained from invading and decaying the wooden roof.

The early history of St. Anne's parish and its two churches is veiled in much obscurity, and rests more upon dim tradition than actual fact. Rappahannock County, formed from Lancaster County, about the middle of the seventeenth century, contained Littlebourne parish. Littlebourne parish, lying on both sides of the Rappahannock River, was divided into North Farnham parish, in Richmond County; South Farnham parish, in lower Essex, and St. Anne's parish, in upper Essex; as both Richmond and Essex counties were formed from Rappahannock County.

St. Anne's parish contained two churches. One of these churches, now destroyed and even its name lost, but of which the foundation is visible, stood near the present St. Matthew's church, one-fourth of a mile above it, on the road leading to Lloyd's. When St. Matthew's church was begun in 1860, its location was selected by its members, and specially recommended by Colonel Wm. Beverley, of Blandfield, because of its neighborhood to the old church which had been the regular place of worship of the Blandfield family and other Episcopal families in that vicinity. This old church fell into the possession of an owner named Sale, from which fact it was known as "Sale's Church." Legend tells us that its material was taken away, and applied to such practical uses that its chancel rail was made into a chicken coop. About two miles from this old church, and on a branch of Occupacia creek, stood the rectory, called "The Glebe," later sold to the Rowzie family, and was known as Clover Field. An old colored man named Frederic Robb, and owned by the Rowzie family, delighted in narrating his reminiscences of this old church, and the assembling of its congregation, conspicuous in that day by the rare possession of coaches, and by the English style of costume knee breeches and boots worn by the gentlemen.

About eight miles farther up in the county of Essex, and situated upon or near Blackburn's creek, stands Vauter's church, and Mr. Richard Baylor, of Kinloch, writes the following interesting sketch for Bishop Meade's above-mentioned work: "The first thing that I recollect as connected with the old sanctuary is that my father used to keep the old English Bible at Marl Bank, and when the casual services of a passing Episcopal minister were to be held there a servant took the old Bible on his head and accompanied the family by a near walking way across the same Blackburn's creek, and after service brought it back. I still have the old Bible at Kinloch, valued for its antiquity, and on its blank leaves are numerous references in my father's handwriting. I remember when the church doors always stood wide open, if indeed they could be closed, and have taken refuge myself from a storm in the body of the church, leading my horse in with me."

Mr. Baylor relates the occurrence of a duel between two gentlemen before the south door of the church, of which he says he was informed by Mr. R. B. Starke, of Norfolk, who attended as surgeon. Mr. Baylor continues: "We are indebted to the firm friendship of a lady that Vauter's church did not share the same fate of other sanctuaries, as, for instance, the church at Leedstown, just across the river. So soon as Mrs. Muscoe Garnett heard that persons had commenced carrying away the paving stones of the aisles, and perhaps some of the bricks, she claimed the church as her own, and threatened prosecution to the next offender. The ground on which she placed her claim was that the church stood on her land, or that of her family."

Mr. James Garnett, the father of Mrs. Muscoe Garnett's husband, did purchase lands adjacent to the church from the Vauter family before the middle of the 18th century, but we must ascend the stream of time higher than this, to trace the origin of Vauter's church. The date, 1731, is marked on a brick in the southern wall of the church, and this has led to a popular belief that the church was built in 1731; but this date may have been that of some alteration or repair. At any rate, the following facts seem to contradict the idea that the church was built in 1731: It has been the legend for years that Vauter's church was endowed with a communion service by Queen Anne of England, and the old cup of the church service was lost. A few years ago a gentleman in New Jersey was shown a communion cup in the collection of a friend, and marked "St. Anne's Parish, Essex County, Virginia." The new owner had purchased it in a New York shop to add to his collection as an antiquary. Now, no doubt, this was the missing cup presented to St. Anne's parish by the Queen, and as she died in 1714, the presentation must have been prior to 1731, when the church was supposed to have been built. This fact alone, however, may not be conclusive, because of the possibility that there was an earlier church in this parish; but in an old land survey, made by John Vauter for Buckingham Brown, who owned land on Blackburn's creek close to Vauter's church, there is a "road leading to the church" on the plot, and this plot is dated 1722; and in another survey, made for John Hawkins (who also owned land on this same creek), by John Vauter, surveyor, there is shown as a boundary the "church land," and this plot is dated 1719.

Blackburn's creek (formerly Lucas' creek), is the starting point in tracing many contiguous properties at the date of the earliest mention of Vauter's church; and as we find Vauters taking up "King's lands" on this creek close to Vauter's church, very early in the 18th century, it seems probable that the church was built upon "King's land," by order of vestry empowered by the Governor of Virginia, and took the name of "Vauter's" from propinquity to lands occupied by Vauters. However this conjecture may be, it seems certain that Vauter's church was standing in

1719, and possibly considerably earlier. Church and glebe lands in existence at that remote date are difficult to trace, as the vestries of the parishes seem to have been empowered to buy or sell property and to levy taxes for the maintenance of the church, often getting into difficulties with the Governor of the Colony, and administering their prerogative with great irregularity and little record of their proceedings. The combination of ecclesiastical and secular affairs was indeed so remarkable that in an old deed conveying land from Gaines to Garnett in 1766, there is the statement that it was "published in the Parish Church of St. Anne's."

Bishop Meade, in speaking of the earliest Church conventions after the Revolution, says: "In 1814 Thomas Matthews and Hon. James Hunter were, delegates from St. Anne's Parish; in 1817 Hon. James M. Garnett; in 1820 Mr. Robert Beverley;" making this statement in connection with his narrative of the complete disorganization of the church for years previously, and its faint revival about the date of these conventions. While there is a notice of the first vestry in Rappahannock Parish under a minister named Francis Doughty, we do not hear of any minister of St. Anne's Parish before Rev. John Bagge in 1724. He seems to have died soon after he took charge of the parish, and to have been succeeded by the very remarkable Rev. Robert Rose. Mr. Rose appears to have enjoyed the great confidence of his people, both as a minister and a business man, and to have been a universal counsellor to his friends scattered over the wide territory of his ministry, reaching to Nelson County. He died while attending the laying out of Richmond city, in 1751, and was buried there. Mr. Smelt succeeded Mr. Rose. In 1774-76 "Parson John Matthews" was minister of St. Anne's. Then, after a long interval, Rev. John Rennolds was minister in 1822, succeeded in 1825 by Rev. John P. McGuire, after whom were the following successors: Rev. Edward B. McGuire, 1852 to 1867; Dr. Charles Goodrich, in 1869; Rev. Alexander Overby, 1873 to 1880; Rev. W. S. Campbell, 1881 to 1884; Rev. J. C. Koon, 1885 to 1888; Rev. D. T. C. Davis, 1890 to 1899; Rev. E. W. Cowling, 1900 to 1902; Rev. J. F. Burks, 1902.

The early history of St. Anne's Parish, in the immediate vicinity of Vauter's church, is strikingly illustrative of the transitoriness of human affairs. Even the names of families, which for generations were prominent land owners and influential citizens, have completely disappeared. Cornhill, Lucas, Gaines, Hawkins, Brookings, Shipp, Meadows, Vauter and many others have left no trace, except in tattered deeds or records of land transfers, dating nearly or quite two centuries in the past. And yet it is still remarkable that for at least one century this old church has been supported by the same small band of hereditary members: Saunders, Dishmans, Pilkingtons, Bayers, Warings, Sales, Rowzies, Bairds, Beverleys, Brookes, Hunters and Garnetts. Nearly all of these families furnish the same congregation for the two churches of St. Anne's parish, Vauter's and St. Matthew's.

[Colonial Churches in the Original Colony of Virginia by Especially Qualified Writers, 1908
Transcribed by AFOFG

Christmas in the 17th and 18th Centuries

By Donald N. Moran

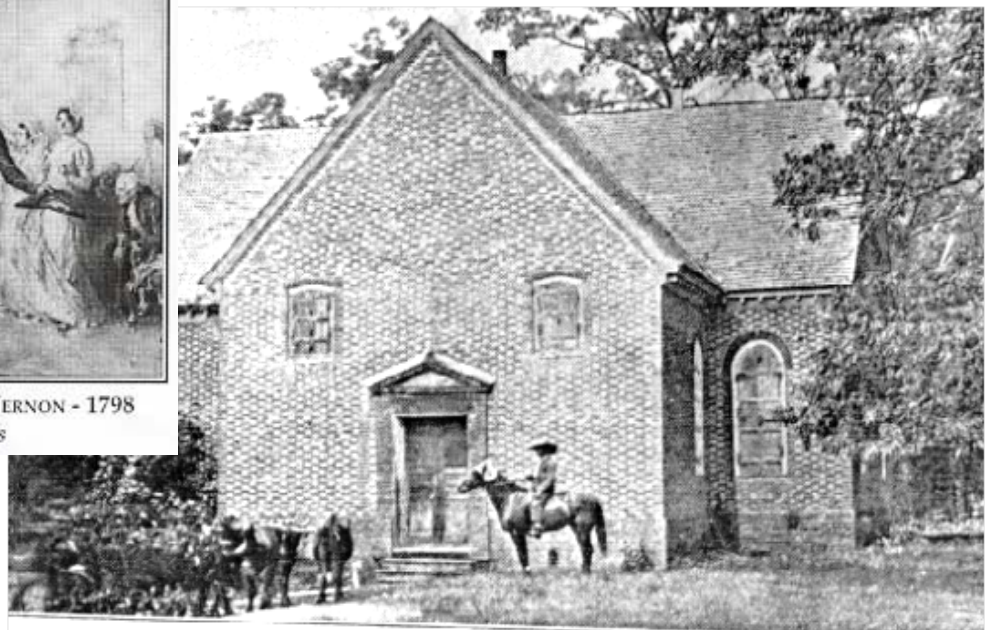
Editor's Note: This article was reprinted from the December 2001 Edition of the Liberty Tree Newsletter

In 17th and early 18th century Colonial America, a Christmas celebration did not resemble the festivities that we are familiar with today. Christmas was considered the first day in a season of celebration, a season which would last, in some areas, until the end of January. The Christmas Advent season consisted of December 25th, The Nativity of Jesus; December 27th, The Feast of St. John the Apostle and Evangelist (celebrated by the Masons); January 1st, The Circumcision of Jesus; January 6th, The Epiphany of Jesus (The twelfth day of Christmas); and February 2nd, the Purification of the Virgin. Christmas celebrations varied throughout the colonies, from the Puritans in New England who did not celebrate Christmas at all, to the Southern Anglicans whose revelries most closely match modern Christmas celebrations.

The celebration of the Christmas season in the southern colonies consisted of parties, hunts, visiting, feasts and church services. Christmas decorations generally consisted of holly and ivy strung throughout the house, with a sprig of mistletoe prominently displayed. A great effort was made to decorate the churches with laurel, holly, and other garlands.



A CHRISTMAS EVE BALL AT MOUNT VERNON - 1798
Painting by J. L. G. Ferris



A photo of the Vauter's Church in Loretto, Virginia during a colonial reenactment. Most worshipers came by horseback or wagon. The church built before 1731 still stands today in its original form.