

STEWART FAMILY HISTORY NEWSLETTER – 2007, Happy Valentine's Day

BACKGROUND

The STEWART family in Texas was headed by Araminta COLEMAN and Daniel STEWART of Hopkins County. They had twelve children – seven of these married and had children of their own.

These seven were: Sarah Jane Stewart **MARTIN CLIFTON DRENNAN**, Mary Catharine Stewart **WADSWORTH FLORENCE**, Effa Matilda Stewart **POSEY**, Louisiana Caroline "Lucy" Stewart **RABE**, Daniel Morrison **STEWART**, Joseph Coleman **STEWART**, Araminta Emma Stewart **STOCKTON**, and Louvenia Domer Stewart **FLORENCE**.



The Valentine's Day card to the right was given by Cal STOCKTON to his parents when Cal was a young boy.

MANY THANKS

I am so grateful to those of you who call and write and send photos, letters, and other bits of family news. There's no way I could put this together without your help. Please keep the information coming. Deteriorated condition of photos or articles is not a problem, as they can be revived through electronic scanning. Also, I will return your photos and articles, unharmed.

2007 STEWART FAMILY REUNION



May 19, 2007 - Arlington, Texas

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 19, 2007, in Arlington, Texas. Cousin Cindy MCPHERSON has reserved a meeting room at the North Davis Church of Christ, just off Interstate 30, for our family potluck. We've put up a reunion website where you can RSVP, tell us how many are coming with you, and, if you want, what dish you'll bring to the potluck. There will be a kitchen, and plenty of ice.

We'll need to raise funds to pay for the room rental, and associated costs, so if you have any ideas or would like to make a donation, let me know.

If you want to help out with the reunion, contact me and/or Cindy, and let us know what you'd like to do. We'll need help with fundraising, decorations, activities, carpools, someone to help find a reasonably priced nearby hotel (where we can reserve rooms), and anything else you can think of that will make this family reunion a success.

You can call me, Teresa, on my toll-free line at: XXX-XXX-XXXX.

WILSE O'NEAL / STOCKTON CONNECTION

I was contacted by a man, Wilse O'NEIL, who was looking through the information on our STOCKTON line. He descends from Wilson Samuel O'NEIL, the brother of Merena O'NEIL. Merena married Bill "Old Ireland" STOCKTON, the father of our Wilse STOCKTON.

Wilse O'Neil would very much like to contact his STOCKTON cousins in Texas when he visits next summer. You can reach him by e-mail or call him at: XXX-XXX-XXXX_.

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BARNES FAMILY CONTACT

Effie Ada STEWART was the daughter of Daniel Morrison STEWART and Mary Lee WELLS. In about 1902 she married Larkin B. "L.B." STEVENSON. They had two children, Eula Faye and Jesse Wallace, before L.B. died around 1910. Eula Faye married Riley Bennet BARNES in 1919. They had three children, Alvin Buford, or A.B., Melvin Andrew, and Billy Edwin. After doing a little research I was able to track down Billy BARNES, who lives in Grand Prairie. He provided this photo of the BARNES family.



Front: Riley, Alvin, Eula Barnes, Back: Bill and Melvin Barnes. In Eula you can see the long straight nose, set jaw, and high forehead of the STEWARTS.

Billy and I have spoken on the phone several times and he sent me a CD of family photos that he had created years ago. Billy was able to fill me in on so much missing information. For instance, I did not know about his brother Alvin Barnes at all. With his help I was also able to fill in information on Jesse Wallace STEVENSON, and find the death date of Effie Ada STEWART. She died 10 NOV 1942 in Kaufman County and might be buried in Vernoy Cemetery. After we order a copy of the death certificate we will be able to tell for sure.

Thank you, Billy BARNES, for all of your indispensable help.

BRECKENRIDGE FAMILY CONTACT

Effie Ada STEWART had another sister named Modina "Maud" Judson STEWART born in 1893, who married James Clay BRECKENRIDGE around 1915. (Another sister, Luna Oney STEWART married Clay's

BRECKENRIDGE FAMILY CONTACT continued brother, John Thomas BRECKENRIDGE.)

Maud STEWART was just a few months older than her niece Abbie THOMPSON, who was raised as a daughter in the Daniel Morrison STEWART home. Maud and Abbie are pictured as constant companions.



Maud and Clay had two children, Odra Buford, who went by O.B. or Brac, and LaMorrison Andrew, who went by Chat. Maud supposedly found these names while scouring WWI obituaries. The two boys followed the example of their mother Maud and aunt Luna Oney (who married the BRECKENRIDGE brothers) and married two sisters, Ruby Lucille and Annie Lee MARLER. I was recently able to contact Linda Ann, the daughter of Odra and Ruby, who has promised to put me in touch with Ruby.

ABBIE LENA THOMPSON PITTMAN

So many people told me that Abbie hadn't married that I gave up trying to find out anything more about her. After I spoke to the BARNESSES and BRECKENRIDGES, though, who both mentioned Abbie, I went back to the censuses to find out what happened to her. I found her on the census rolls for the Texas School for the Deaf in 1910. After that she disappeared again, even though everyone told me she was still around Grand Prairie, working for North American Aircraft during WWII. This made me quite certain that Abbie had married.

ABBIE LENA THOMPSON PITTMAN continued

To make a long story short, after reinterviewing I discovered that Abbie had married Calvin PITTMAN (originally PITMAN), a fellow student at TSD, whose family lived in Haskell. He proposed to her in a letter, and she accepted back in letter. He came to Grand Prairie, married her in about 1917 and took her back to Haskell where they had four children: Wallace, Walter, and twins Jerry and Jean. Walter PITTMAN lives in Grand Prairie, and I spoke with him for some time about his family. (Brothers Wallace and Walter PITMAN served together in the Navy. Their commanding officer put a second "T" in Walter's surname so he could tell them apart and the name change followed Walter in his civilian life.)

At one point I asked Walter a question about his mother Abbie and he said, "You know, she spelt that name on her hands many times." Walter gave me lots of information on his family, which I've folded into Abbie's section on the site. Thank you, Walter, for sharing.

By the way, Abbie was born on Valentine's Day 1894 in Florence Hill.

FARMER FAMILY CONTACT

Louisiana Caroline STEWART had a daughter named Lucy J. RABE. Lucy J. married Harry Alvin FARMER and they had four children, raising them in Erath and Haskell Counties, Texas. I have searched for a long time for their descendants and only recently was able to contact their descendants. They have an annual reunion near Abilene in June. If any of you are interested in attending, let me know and I'll put you in touch.

Researching the family I discovered that Harry Alvin's mother was Sarah Margaret MAXWELL, the daughter of Amanda Lavina WILLIAMS and James Harvey MAXWELL. Margaret is mentioned in Amanda's Civil War letter, and her brother Joseph Henry married my great aunt Della Avery STEWART. We're quite certain that Amanda is related to our WILLIAMS line, too, though we do not, as yet, know the exact connection.

Lucy Judson RABE and Harry Alvin FARMER had a son named Alvin Judson FARMER. As you might remember, JUDSON is an embedded surname, the middle name of Anna

FARMER FAMILY CONTACT continued

Judson STEWART, and, as it turns out, the middle name of Alvin's mother Lucy. Daniel Morrison STEWART's daughter Maud also has the middle name Judson. I have not been able to make a connection with this family. The name "Judson" first shows up in our line in 1845 so could have come from either the STEWART or the COLEMAN line.



Lucy & Harry Farmer w/ granddaughter Ruby

THE KILLING OF JEHU CHASTAIN

As my son's 5th grade class is starting a section on the Civil War I took another look at the letter written by Amanda Lavina Williams to her husband James Harvey Maxwell. It was written the 9th of August, 1862 in Bentonville, Arkansas. In the letter Amanda mentions the killing of "old man Chasteen," in quite graphic detail.

The feds has been in here several times since you left home. They have been fired on many times. Several of them has been killed. They was shot at one time and they surrounded the thicket where the men was and shot at them. Killed old man Chasteen. Shot him six times and after he was dead Esq. Wimpy stuck his bayonet throug him. The rest of the men got away.

A little research revealed that "old man Chasteen" was Jehu Chasteen, a beloved minister in Benton County, born 30 DEC 1801 in Pickens County, South Carolina. There turns out to be a debate as to the nature of his death, and questions about whether or not he was involved with a home guard firing upon federal

