

STEWART FAMILY HISTORY NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2006

Welcome to the **MARCH EDITION** of our newsletter.

BACKGROUND

The STEWART family in Texas was headed by Daniel and Araminta 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** (married three times), 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 POSEY FAMILY

One of the 12 children of Daniel and Araminta STEWART, Effa Matilda, married James Henry POSEY. New information on this family has been posted, which also links to information on the THWEATT and CASTLEBERRY families. The STEWARTS, POSEYS, THWEATTS, and CASTLEBERRYS may have migrated to Hopkins County together, around 1868.

THE STOCKTON FAMILY

One of the 12 children of Daniel and Araminta STEWART, Araminta Emma, married Wilse STOCKTON. Beverly Ann Ryan WOODROOF has sent me a family history written by an earlier descendant named Willie STOCKTON. I've been able to transcribe much of this and post some of it in the STOCKTON section of the website. In addition to detailing Wilse's family line I've been able to add the following sibling lines: Calvin Clayton STOCKTON, Sarah Madison STOCKTON HOLMESLY, and William Franklin STOCKTON.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to Wilbur and Warren STOCKTON (3.27).



THE WILLIAMS FAMILY

One of the 12 children of Daniel and Araminta STEWART, Lucy, married Robert W. RABE. One of their daughters was named Doma. She married Newton Comadore WILLIAMS and they had six children. The Newton and Doma WILLIAMS family is missing from the 1920 census and what happened to them has been a mystery. I knew that Ethel J. WILLIAMS, one of their daughters, appeared on the 1920 census living with the LOONEYS in Hopkins County. (The LOONEYS are descended from Lucy's sister Sarah.) Ira WILLIAMS, one of their sons, appeared on the 1920 census living with Alexander Newton STEWART in Dallas. (Alexander is one of Lucy's and Sarah's brothers.)

In a telephone conversation with Garth LOONEY he mentioned that a girl named Ethel WILLIAMS had lived with their family for awhile - that her parents had died. He said Ethel then moved to Overton, in Rusk County TX, where the LOONEYS used to visit her. He confirmed what I long suspected - that the parents died, perhaps in an influenza epidemic. In 1910 the WILLIAMS family lived three doors away from the MAXWELL family. [Della STEWART MAXWELL](#) (a descendant of Joseph) died from influenza in 1919.

Johnann DAVIS, a descendant of Effa Stewart POSEY, sent me a package of family data this month and this contained the full names of [the WILLIAMS children](#), which will make it much easier to trace their descendants. Garth contributed photographs of two children we believe are Ethel and Ira. Ethel definitely has the features of a RABE.

PASSINGS

Clyde Darryl STEWART, a grandson of Joseph Coleman STEWART, died 17 FEB 2006, in Texas. Clyde was born in Ranger TX 21 AUG 1926. He served in the US Navy during WWII, and joined the Los Angeles Police Department in 1948, serving 20 years. He was awarded the Medal of Valor for gallantry and outstanding courage by the LAPD. He is survived by his wife Brenda, and three sons: Bruce, Dale, and Gary, and their families.

MARY GERTRUDE MARTIN

Sarah, the first child of Daniel and Araminta STEWART, married John S. Martin in Shelby County Alabama. They had two children - Mary Gertrude MARTIN and John MARTIN. Mary Gertrude MARTIN is Garth LOONEY's grandmother, and he remembers her telling him, when he was a child, that she walked all the way from Alabama behind a covered wagon. (John MARTIN, Sarah's husband, is not mentioned again. It's possible he died in the Civil War. Sarah married Nathaniel CLIFTON after she arrived in Texas.)

Shortly after Mary Gertrude's mother Sarah and her grandmother Araminta both died in 1878, she married Franklin P. KNIGHT. He died within a year or so, before 1880. If Mary Gertrude's husband was alive when their only child, Franklin P. KNIGHT, Jr. was born, it was only for a short time. In the 1880 Hopkins County TX census the 21-year-old widowed Mary is living with her 8-month-old son Franklin, her 11-year-old half sister Lula D. CLIFTON, and her 18-year-old brother John MARTIN. It must have been very hard times for this little family.

About eight years later Mary Gertrude married James W. POTTS and they had one child, Susie Vera POTTS, nicknamed Hannah. About ten years after that Lula, Mary Gertrude's half sister, married Joseph Richard POTTS, the brother of Mary's husband.

Garth LOONEY, the son of Susie Vera POTTS and Keiffer Franklin LOONEY, sent some lovely photographs of his grandmother, [Mary Gertrude MARTIN](#), which are now posted. In one she is sitting with her grand-daughter Frankie Alline KNIGHT, the only child of Franklin P. KNIGHT, Jr. On the back of this photo was written "Tooty and Alline." Tooty must have been what the little children called her instead of Gertrude. Another photo pictures Mary Gertrude with Garth's older sister and brother, and two of the Williams children, Ethel and Ira. Mary Gertrude MARTIN, this amazing woman, who had weathered so much hardship and loss, continued to reach out over the years to care for others. This is our legacy.

Thank you, Garth, for sharing this with us.

PRAYERS, PLEASE

Orion Morgan MCLAIN is recovering from a broken hip. Two members of the WATSON family have been hospitalized. Willie DAWSON is facing surgery. Family in Oklahoma are still battling fires, and our families in both Oklahoma and Texas are still praying for rain. Please remember all of these in your prayers.

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

I've been very sick this month with a nasty flu, so haven't been able to keep in touch with people as much as I usually do. Also, Ancestry.com, a resource I've depended on, has raised their rates and I've been unable to keep up my subscription. This has slowed my research. Because of this I'm even more thankful for everyone's direct participation. I'm proud to be a member of this family.

STEWART HISTORY WEBSITE

The entire family history is online at: www.ouramericanfamilies.com
You are welcome to log on anytime.

If you are not able to get to a computer, please let me know and I'll send you a paper copy of the history.

If you have any stories, letters, photographs, updates, or prayer requests, please send them to me and I'll post them in the next issue of this newsletter.

Thank you to everyone who has already submitted materials.

Until next month,

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"There's a magical tie to the land of our home which the heart cannot break, though the footsteps may roam." - Eliza Cook