

STEWART FAMILY HISTORY NEWSLETTER – April 2008

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**.

STEWART FAMILIES 2008 REUNION

Please reserve:

Saturday, June 21, 2008

for the 2008 Stewart Families Reunion.

The reunion will be in Sulphur Springs, Hopkins County, Texas, which is about 80 miles northeast of Dallas off Highway 30.

For those of you who would like to stay over Friday and/or Saturday, night(s), we've reserved a block of rooms at the Comfort Suites, in Sulphur Springs, at a reduced rate of \$59.63 per room. With tax that comes to a total of \$66.79 per night. The hotel has many amenities, including a complimentary breakfast and a pool. The rooms are full suites so can accommodate a family.

To get the special rate, call: (903) 438-0918 and reserve from the block for the Stewart Reunion.

REUNION SCHEDULE

Thursday, June 19, 2008

Lunch at Niester's in Granbury, Texas, with the Stockton family.

Friday, June 20, 2008

Tours of Vernoy Cemetery, Grand Prairie, and Florence Ranch Homestead, Mesquite, Texas. Times TBA.

STEWART FAMILIES 2008 REUNION, continued

Saturday, June 21, 2008

10:00am - 5:00pm,
Buford Park, Sulphur Springs, Texas.
Coffee hour, Potluck lunch at noon, afternoon entertainment and visiting.

We've rented an air-conditioned meeting hall with a kitchen. Bring a covered dish for our potluck and get together. A swimming pool is available for those who want to take a dip.

Sunday, June 22, 2008

We will drive down Highway 19, visiting four family cemeteries: Old Shirley, New Shirley, New Hope, and Greenville.

R.S.V.P.

It's always a big help to me if you call (toll-FREE: 866-730-6297) or write and let me know if you'll be attending and how many people you think you'll be bringing. (We may need more chairs.)

Silent Auction Donations

A Silent Auction is your chance to show off your creativity, your craft or collecting interests while helping raise funds to offset reunion and research expenses. If you have something that you would like to donate, please contact LaDena PARNACHER. All items will be on display at the Reunion. For family members that are unable to attend, photos and descriptions of items will be listed on www.ouramericanfamilies.com in order to give all family members an opportunity to bid. Minimum bids will be posted with each item.

I'll start out by donating:

Six Hours of Genealogical Research on a family of your choice, the results in a printed document.

Volunteering

If any of you would like to volunteer to help with the reunion, I would REALLY appreciate it. We will need help at the door with greeting, the sign-in desk, setting up the kitchen, setting up the hall, and of course, clean-up. Also, if you'd be willing to call or write a few members of the family and invite them to the reunion, I'll provide the contact information. This is a good way to make a connection with family members you may not know. If you have any other volunteer ideas, drop me a line.

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CORRECTIONS

Billy Edwin BARNES is alive and well, and living in Mesquite, Texas. It was his son, Joe Edwin BARNES, who died 1 MAR 2008, in Houston. My sincere apologies to this family for my error and to anyone else who was distressed by this misinformation.

Walter Leland STOCKTON

In addition, I've been referring to Walter Leland STOCKTON, the first daughter of Araminta Emma STEWART and Wilce STOCKTON, as "Lela," which was the spelling of her name as entered on the 1930 U.S. Federal Census. Before I knew any of the STOCKTONs I thought of Walter Leland as "Lela." Dorris Mae STOCKTON TAYLOR has corrected me, informing me that her aunt went by the name of "Lelan." I apologize for the error. If you find any place in the site where I've referred to Miss STOCKTON as "Lela," please let me know so I can make a correction. Thanks, Dorris, for setting me straight! I strive for accuracy. =)

FIVE GENERATIONS

This photograph came from the collection of Linda BRACKENRIDGE DUNLAP, the granddaughter of Maud STEWART BRACKENRIDGE, and was scanned at the 2007 Family Reunion.



I recognize the seated woman with the gray hair as Mary Lee WELLS STEWART, the wife of Daniel Morrison STEWART. To this woman's left is her mother, Susan WADSWORTH WELLS SORENSEN. Mrs. SORENSEN died

FIVE GENERATIONS, continued

18 JAN 1923. Behind them I recognize Mary Lee WELLS STEWART's daughter, Effie Ada STEWART STEVENSON.

Effie Ada STEWART STEVENSON's daughter, Eula Faye STEVENSON BARNES had a baby, Alvin Buford BARNES, on 27 NOV 1922. The seated woman in front, holding the baby, resembles Eula Faye, and fits logically in this photograph.

There's another photograph of Mrs. SORENSEN, identified as such, holding the same baby, and another older baby, which might possibly be Wallace Calvin PITMAN, the son of Abbie Lena THOMPSON and Calvin PITMAN.

FARMER BROTHERS HARRY AND THOMAS

I was contacted this month by two branches of the Farmer family. Brandi BARNETT, from the Thomas Elmer FARMER family line, and Lisa FARMER DEVLIEGER and her sister Rebecca FARMER BUCKINGHAM, great-granddaughters of Harry Alvin FARMER. Harry Alvin FARMER married Lucy Judson RABE, the daughter of Louisiana Carolina STEWART RABE. Harry Alvin and Thomas Elmer were brothers, and both signed the autograph book of Thomas Newton STEWART.



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FARMER BROTHERS, continued

First, Thomas Elmer FARMER. I sent for the death certificate of his first wife, Lieura Asberry WILLIAMS, as I was wondering if she was related to our WILLIAMS line. It turns out she is not, at least directly, related. Her parents were H.T. WILLIAMS and Lieura ASBERRY. I have not been able to find out any more about them. Lieura died 21 DEC 1933 from complications during surgery. Brandi BARNETT sent me this beautiful photograph, presumed to be Tom and Lieura FARMER's children.

This photo matches the children of Thomas Elmer FARMER in terms of ages, and time. Most probably, from eldest to youngest, Leta, Nellie Odeal, Georgia Waldeen, Curtis, and Thomas Elwood FARMER. Circa 1920, Fort Worth, Texas.

Alvin Judson FARMER carries the enigmatic family name "JUDSON," carried by his mother, Lucy Judson RABE FARMER, and her aunt, Anna Judson STEWART, and his first cousin once removed, Modina "Maud" Judson STEWART. I have searched for an associated Judson family and have found none. If anyone has heard anything about the Judsons in any of our lines, please let me know.

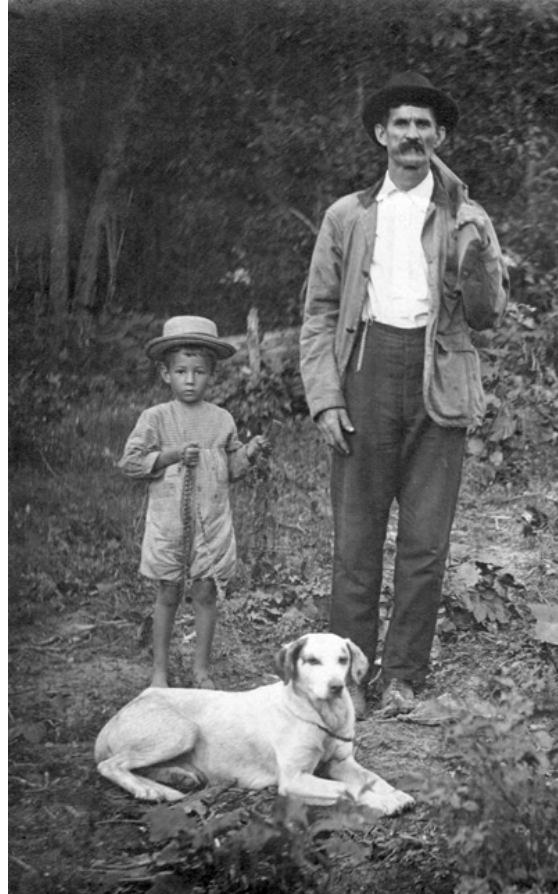
I'll be working on updating this line as I have time.

SITZ FAMILY | THE COMPANY STORE

Mrs. Betty SITZ CYR, daughter of Viola Isabell PERRY and Charlie Peter SITZ, sent me this photograph of the Tennessee Consolidated Coal Company Commissary in Tracy City, Tennessee. Many members of the Sitz family worked in the coal mines of Grundy County, TN, so this store would have been a fixture in their lives.



SITZ FAMILY | THE COMPANY STORE, continued
Betty SITZ CYR identified the photo below as being of the CANNONS. The presumptions as to possible identities are mine.



Members of the Cannon Family, perhaps James Cannon and grandson Charlie Peter Sitz, circa 1898, Tennessee.

RAGLAND FAMILIES | COUSINS REUNION

This is a special note to Calvin, Warren and Wilber STOCKTON and Dorris STOCKTON TAYLOR. Mike Vauthier, a RAGLAND descendant and publisher of the RAGLAND stories mentioned in last month's newsletter, told me that each year in October his mother organizes a "Cousins Reunion" and that they hoped you might attend.

I was given permission by Mike Vauthier to mirror the narratives of Faustina Cline and George Wallace Ragland on our site. See "Our True Story," Mama's Part and Daddy's Part.

MY FAMILY NEWS

I'm having a torn tendon surgically repaired on Friday. I'll be in a cast and on crutches for about a month. My mom will be coming from D.C. to help out and to visit her grandson, Elliott. Send good thoughts. =)

Elliott is doing very well and will turn 13 on May 2nd. We're having a big birthday bash for him at a local miniature golf course. It's his first big party.

Elliott won 2nd place in his middle school poetry slam, a competition where the students read the poems they write to the student body. He brought home a huge trophy. Boy, are we proud of him!



We're all looking forward to seeing everyone, so I do hope you'll come to the reunion.

BIRTHDAYS.

Happy birthday to LaDena JONES PARNACHER (4/3), Lucille MARLER BRACKENRIDGE (4/13), Norma Karen HALE EDDLEMON (4/17), Charlotte WORD STOCKTON (4/24), and Opal Nell HENRY SMITH (4/27).

PRAYER REQUESTS.

Please remember Orion Morgan MCLAIN and Dorothy Jo MCPHERSON in your prayers as they remain in rehabilitation.

THANKS AGAIN...

to Billy Edwin BARNES, Dorris TAYLOR, Linda BRACKENRIDGE DUNLAP, Brandi BARNETT, Lisa FARMER DEVLIEGER, Rebecca FARMER BUCKINGHAM, Betty SITZ CYR, Mike VAUTHIER, and Joseph Lemuel GUEST.

Until next month,

Teresa Stewart Sitz

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www.ouramericanfamilies.com

"Most of all the other beautiful things in life come by twos and threes, by dozens and hundreds. Plenty of roses, stars, sunsets, rainbows, brothers and sisters, aunts and cousins, comrades and friends - but only one mother in the whole world."

- Kate Douglas Wiggin