

STEWART FAMILY HISTORY NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2007

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**.

DNA Testing

For those of you interested in genealogical DNA testing, find out more at FamilyTreeDNA.com. Consider having the members of your family line chip in to get a test for one of its male members.



The 2007 Stewart Family Reunion

was a great success! Between 60 and 70 people attended. People came from as far away as Oklahoma (the Rabe-Joneses), Washington, D.C. (my mom), and Los Angeles (me). Marvin Wells Stewart, Sr. and his son, Marvin Wells Stewart, Jr., from the Daniel Morrison STEWART line provided the music and PA system. They played gospel to which we all sang along, and then Marvin, Jr. played music he had written himself. Brittani MORAN, the up and coming country singer in our family, wowed us with solos, and Dovie PITTMAN signed. Dovie is the wife of Walter PITTMAN, the son of Abbie THOMPSON PITMAN, of the Daniel Morrison STEWART line. Abbie was deaf, as was her husband, Cal PITMAN. LaDena PARNACHER, of the Lucy STEWART RABE line, entertained us with Chickasaw storytelling and her charming brand of humor.

The 2007 Stewart Family Reunion, cont.

And now that you've seen me perform my less than stellar gospel karaoke, you should feel emboldened to hone up on some of your own talents for sharing at the 2008 reunion!

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the reunion. We were able to purchase our own scanner and printer, and other supplies, which Sarah and Ken MEADERS are storing for us. If you have a chance to thank Cindy MCPHERSON (of the Lucy STEWART RABE line), she went above and beyond the call of duty, securing us the venue, coordinating the reunion, and making two batches of her amazing homemade ice cream.

Thanks to Bob and Scharie STEWART, Norma and Jimmie HALE, Dewey BRAUNER, Dorris STOCKTON TAYLOR, Charlene STEWART, Bullet and Iris HATFIELD, Ethylene and Skeeter HATFIELD, Marvin and Bettye STEWART, Sarah and Ken MEADERS, Warren and Wilber STOCKTON, Opal HENRY SMITH, Kat SWINNEA, the FAIRBAIRN and CLAEYS families, LaDella and Clem JONES, Jeff and Paula JONES, Charylott SWINNEA, and everyone else who contributed funds to the reunion.

Thanks also to everyone who provided photos and other documents for scanning, and for those who joined us at Niester's in Granbury, Vernoy Cemetery in Grand Prairie, and Ryan's Restaurant and the Florence Ranch Homestead in Mesquite. Thanks also to Modene HUGGINS and Brody and Mary KOON (of the Sarah Jane STEWART line) for the lunch in Sulphur Springs, and the side trips to the old homestead and the Shirley Cemeteries.

Many people have written to tell me they had a wonderful time at the reunion and are looking forward to next year. [Please give me feedback](#) on this year's reunion and your suggestions for next year.

PLEASE SEND PICTURES

My camera gave out early on at the reunion so I don't have many pictures of the event. If you have pictures, please send me copies and I'll be happy to reimburse you any costs.

The 2007 Stewart Family Reunion, cont.

FAMILY COOKBOOK

Thanks to everyone who contributed recipes. It's NOT too late to include yours! Send yours, your mother's, or your grandmother's recipes to Cindy MCPHERSON at c.mcpherson@sbcglobal.net, or write to her at:
Cindy McPherson

She'll be compiling these into a family cookbook that we'll use to raise funds for next year's reunion. Don't forget those colorful home remedies, odd household hints, family sayings, and famous regional or county recipes. We could also use photos of family members in the kitchen or at the barbecue.

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY

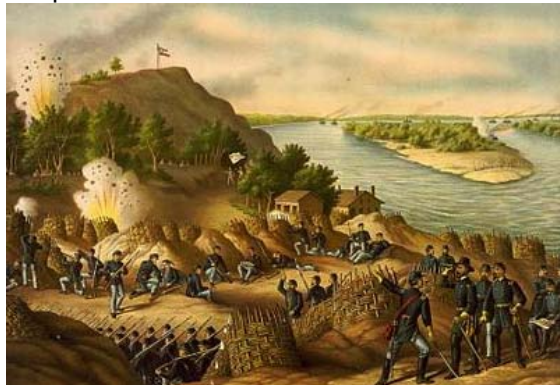
Different states have chosen different dates to commemorate Confederate Memorial Day. One of the more widely accepted dates is June 3rd, the birthdate of Jefferson DAVIS. This month seems a good opportunity to remember those who fought and fell within our own families.

William Wallace Stewart | Jonesboro

The eldest son of Araminta Domer COLEMAN and Daniel STEWART, William Wallace STEWART enlisted 19 AUG 1862 in Company I, 18th Regiment Alabama Infantry along with his brother-in-law, John S. MARTIN, and other friends and family. Company I fought at Shiloh, Chickamauga, and Jonesboro where William STEWART received a gunshot wound which fractured his skull on 31 AUG 1864. He was admitted as a Confederate prisoner to the 2 Division Hospital in Jonesboro, Georgia, and his wound was dressed five hours after the injury, with a simple dressing. He died three days later, 3 SEP 1864, his body left at Jonesboro, presumably at the Jonesboro National Cemetery in Clayton County, Georgia, which has a section for "Confederate Dead." We are fortunate to know as much as we do about William, as John MARTIN's Civil War record does not even note his death that occurred sometime in 1863, only that Sarah Jane STEWART MARTIN, his wife, received a widow's pension later that year.

James Harvey Maxwell | Siege of Vicksburg

My son Elliott SITZ is now studying the Civil War. Last week we read two stories about the siege of Vicksburg in Mississippi, and I was proud to share with him the story of our ancestor, James Harvey MAXWELL. He served in the 15th Regiment, Arkansas Infantry, Company G, at the Siege of Vicksburg and numbered among the captured. His great-grandson Orion told me that James Harvey was hit in the head with a minié ball and carried for life a long scar in which a pencil could be lain. James Harvey MAXWELL died in 1899, and found among his effects was a doctor's prescription for quitting morphine. It's estimated that 400,000 returning Civil War veterans suffered from the "soldiers disease" of morphine addiction.



Siege of Vicksburg, Gen. U.S. Grant, assisted by the Navy under Admiral Porter. Kurz & Allison, Art Publishers, [1888]. Lithograph, hand colored.

Frances Knight Wynn | She Lost Four Brothers
Lou Ellen MARTIN BUTLER generously shared with us a portrait of her great-grandparents on the WYNN side, Frances Elizabeth KNIGHT and Judge John J. WYNN.



Frances Elizabeth KNIGHT and Judge John J. WYNN

Frances Knight Wynn continued

The WYNNs married twice into our family. Their daughter Mollie married Thomas Jefferson Rusk HENRY, whose son married Loula May STOCKTON, daughter of Araminta Emma STEWART. Another daughter, Lela Kate WYNN married Reuben Daniel RABE, son of Lucy STEWART RABE. Mary P. BRITT and John A. KNIGHT, from which both the STOCKTON and RABE families descend, had four sons and a grandson wounded or killed in various Civil War battles, according to the Knight Family Bible. Four were brothers, and one a nephew, of Frances Elizabeth KNIGHT, who married John J. WYNN.

David Britt Knight was killed in the Battle near Richmond on the 1st day of July 1862 between 9 and 10 o'clock at night 1862. (son of John A. Knight)

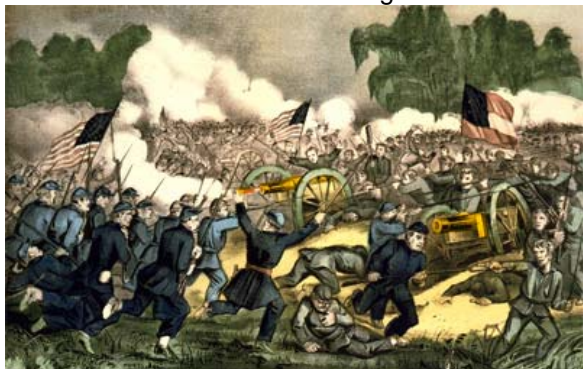
D. M. Knight was killed in the battle of Gettysburg Penn on 2nd of July 1863. (son of W.H. Knight)

John C. Knight died in Richmond on the 9th of July 1863 between 9 and 10 o'clock at night of wounds received in the battle of Chancellorsville Va. (son of John A. Knight)

James H. Knight was wounded in the Battle of 27th of June 1862 near Richmond Va. (son of John A. Knight)

James C. Knight was wounded in the Battle of Chancellorsville. On the 3rd of May 1862 or 1863. (son of John A. Knight)

Norene WYNN GRAVELY shared with us the KNIGHT Family Bible. The portrait of Frances and John WYNN is a blessing to all the WYNN families. Many thanks to Norene, and to Lou Ellen and Al BUTLER for sharing with us.



The Battle of Gettysburg, Pa. July 3d. 1863. Created and Published: New York : Published by Currier & Ives, [1863?]

Remembering James R. Knight

Mary Gertrude MARTIN was the daughter of Sarah Jane STEWART and John S. MARTIN. She married Franklin P. KNIGHT around 1879. Franklin's brother, William Albert KNIGHT, passed this story down to his great-granddaughter, Pat Regan, who shared it with me.

James R. KNIGHT was born sometime in JUL 1825 in Tennessee, and died sometime in 1865. My grandmother indicates that he died on the way home from the Civil War. Family story is that a man came by the house to tell them that James had died. The man had some sweet potatoes in his hand. My great grandfather was only maybe 6 or 7 at the time and family was so impoverished and he was so hungry, that the only thing he could think about was the sweet potatoes the man was carrying, rather than the tragic news.

James' widow, Mary Elizabeth SANDERS KNIGHT, left with four children, married Manning T. WOOD on Christmas Eve that year.

John Hosea Stockton's Close Call

Three of Merena O'NEAL's and Bill STOCKTON's sons served the Confederacy: Samuel Oliver STOCKTON, William Porter STOCKTON, and John Hosea STOCKTON. Willie STOCKTON WHISENHUNT PRUETT remembers John STOCKTON:

John Hosea STOCKTON was a private in the Confederate Army. His Company was "L" - Regiment 23rd Cavalry Gould's Regiment 27th Texas Cavalry. Served until the war was over.

In Civil War times, John was on guard duty with 4 other men. John saw the enemy approaching. He went back to alert the camp and the enemy shot a hole in his shirt. He always thought God took care of him.

After the war John Hosea STOCKTON returned to Texas, married Mary Serena IVEY, and together they had eight children.

Our families fought bravely on both sides of that tragic war, and the aftermath drove many of them westward - to South Dakota in the North and to Texas in the South. The war has touched all our lives in ways we may never know or fully appreciate.

STEWART FAMILY HISTORY NEWSLETTER –2007, JUNE page 4

Finding Your Ancestors Who Fought in the War

A very useful website for genealogy research is The Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System at:

<http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/>

Using it, you can look up ancestors who fought on either side of the Civil War. Don't tighten your search too much, though, as those old records had lots of errors. For instance, you're better off searching for "Maxwell" alone, rather than including a first name. When you've found your man, go to NARA, the National Archives and Records Administration at:

<http://www.archives.gov/genealogy/>

...and order his Civil War Record. The record costs about \$17.00, and the value of the information varies, but I've always learned something valuable.

Don't assume that because your family lived in the South that your ancestors fought for the Confederacy. My husband Ken was surprised to learn recently that his great-grandfather George Washington SITZ, and George's brother Levi Jackson SITZ, of Tracy City, TN, near Chattanooga, fought for the Union in the 1st Regiment, Tennessee Independent Vidette Cavalry, Company D.

EMAIL NEWSLETTERS

If you have a computer and an Internet connection, please consider getting this newsletter via email. The email version is in color and includes interactive features, that the snail mail version doesn't. It's free and saves the family the cost of paper and postage. Plus, it saves trees!

Sign up for the email version here:

<http://www.ouramericanfamilies.com/signup>

Final Note

I loved seeing you all at the reunion and was sorry I didn't have more time to sit and talk with everyone. Some people have suggested that we make the reunion a 2-day event, and I would love to do this. It would give us more time to mingle and get to know each other, as well as have some workshops on genealogy and family history. Please let me know what you think, and what you would like next year.

BIRTHDAYS.

Happy birthday to Dorothy Jo WILLIAMS MCPHERSON, Eddie TULLAR and Walter Lee PITTMAN, Johann DAVIS, Annette STEWART BROWN, Martha Jo NABORS CARTER, Jeff JONES, and Garth LOONEY.

PASSINGS.

Our thoughts and prayers are with [Ruby Jo FARMER LONGRIE](#) who recently lost her husband, Robert LONGRIE.

[Tullie Lee WYNN VINEYARD MIXON](#), the daughter of Lanora FAIRCHILD and Willie Walton WYNN, died 31 MAY 2007, in Costa Mesa, CA.

Until next month,

Teresa Stewart Sitz
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www.ouramericanfamilies.com

*"No more shall the war-cry sever,
Or the winding rivers be red;
They banish our anger forever
When they laurel the graves of our dead!
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the Judgment Day:
Love and tears for the Blue,
Tears and love for the Gray."*

- The Blue and the Gray, by Francis Miles Finch (1827-1907)