

# LEWIS FAMILY NEWSLETTER

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## PROUD DESCENDANTS OF JESSE AND NANCY COBB LEWIS

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**I**t hardly seems like three months since we last communicated, but here it is February 19<sup>th</sup> and time to let you know what is happening in Milton.

We had a good Christmas and an uneventful New Year and we hope your Holiday Season was the same. The Y2K bug turned out to be nothing more than a lot of hype. The most prevalent Y2K bug around Milton was more of the flu type than the one where communication, utilities, etc would collapse.

The year 2000 thus far has been clicking along quite nicely. Ann and I have both been in good health and active in our activities. Retirement can be one of the busiest times of one's life. Retirement is not a case of sitting on the porch and every now and then rocking a little, in fact we find there are not enough hours in the day to do the things we want to do.

On January 12 we received an e-mail from Joy Lee in Biloxi informing us that Floyd and Ruby Jaycox were in an automobile accident the previous afternoon. Floyd was killed instantly and Ruby was badly bruised and was taken to the local hospital. Ruby had the police call George and Joy who went to the hospital and kinda took care of the situation and helped Ruby with all arrangements. Ruby is now home following three weeks in the hospital and seems to be doing pretty good. I am sure Ruby would appreciate a card from you. Her address is Mrs. Ruby Jaycox 14560 Lamey Bridge Rd., Biloxi MS 39532-8955.

Floyd was the Grandson of Ella Lewis Lee and the Great Grandson of Henry Jackson Lewis, son of Jesse & Nancy Lewis. Henry Jackson is buried in RPC and his headstone is inscribed "Keeper of the Lighthouse". Some of you will remember Floyd and Ruby attended a couple of our Lewis Reunions and have contributed toward the maintenance of RPC.

Joyce Nelson tells me there are still copies available of *Cornbread, Fatback, and Syrup: Lectures on the History and Folklore of Santa Rosa County* written by our own Santa Rosa County Historian, Warren Weekes. If you would like a copy of this history of Santa Rosa County contact Warren Weekes at 5709 Mill Pond Ln, Milton FL 32583 or Joyce Nelson at 7501 Lakeside Dr. Milton FL 32583.

The weekend of February 12 we were pleased to have our niece, Janet Chambers of Naples FL and her daughter, Laurie Jordan of North Lauderdale FL visit us here in Milton. Janet is our oldest sister's eldest child. Janet and Laurie have the same birth date so they decided to spend it here with us, Betty & Bill Wolfe, and Janet cousins. We were delighted to have them and only wish they could have stayed a few days longer. Maybe next year.

*"What wisdom can you find that is greater than kindness?" - Jean Jacques Rousseau*

### CEMETERY REPORT

The RPC continues to be maintained in good condition by Mike Pendleton. We have trimmed

the shrubbery along the drive into the RPC. The young Arbor Vitae plants along side the plaque seems to be doing well. The Azaleas are in full bloom which makes the cemetery simply beautiful. Ann and I visited it on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March and watered the plants. If you want to visit a pretty and peaceful site you should try to visit RPC at this time. How lucky we are to have our own little piece of waterfront to visit and remember our loved ones.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

As of March 1 our finances are in good shape. We have a Checking balance of \$313.71, a Savings balance of \$164.08, and CDs totaling \$8010. Not a bad record considering we only opened a Checking account with \$50 on January 11, 1993 and bought our first CD in April 1996. We certainly would not be in this financial condition without the dedication and contributions from many of you who read this newsletter. I will not try to mention you by name, even though I have a complete record of each contribution, because I believe you prefer to be anonymous. As a result of your generous donations we are now able to provide routine maintenance for RPC by using ONLY the interest earned on our CDs. I am sure I speak for all of the Lewis Family when I say "Thank You!" Since our last report to you we have received a substantial contribution from Janet & Larry Chambers.

Now that we have enough interest earnings to pay for routine RPC maintenance let us set our next goal. **THAT IS PURCHASE CDs TO EARN INTEREST SUFFICIENT TO PAY FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THE NEWSLETTER.** How much will that take? Approximately \$2000 which could be raised if each family receiving this newsletter would contribute \$20. Not a bad investment to assure continued publication of your Family Newsletter with the earnings of CDs. Think about it, make your check payable to "RPC Newsletter CD Fund, and send your contribution today. If we work at it we could have the funds collected by the time of our Reunion in July.

## REUNION UPDATE

The Reunion Plans are well underway. We will make arrangements to have our Dutch treat breakfast at Reggie's on Friday morning, July 28 at 8:30. We will, again, journey down to Robinson Point Cemetery to let you all see how your money is being spent and to remember those family and friends buried there. In addition to the visit to RPC we will visit the Henry Botts Country Western Museum here in Milton. Henry is a Milton native who has been in "hillbilly-country-western music since about 1934. His museum is something you will long remember. It doesn't matter if you are a country-western fan or not, you will remember your visit to his museum.

Betty has agreed to come up with some entertainment at the Friday evening dinner at the Milton Garden Club. Have not decided on a menu yet. If you have any suggestions please let us know. We will keep the cost to \$10 per person with children under five eating free.

On Saturday the 29<sup>th</sup> we will have our covered dish picnic at Navarre Park, Highway US 98 in Navarre.

You will find printed on the following page a reservation form for Reunion activities. Please remember that the Friday Evening Dinner at the Milton Garden Club is a catered event. **WE MUST PAY FOR EVERY MEAL ORDERED,** therefore it is **NECESSARY** that we have your reservations and check by July 21 in order to place our order with the caterer. We do not mean to be hard-nosed about the reservations, but we have had to pay for several meals for people who said they would attend and pay at the door but failed to show up. For your information, we pay \$8 per meal and then donate \$50 to the entertainers. It is easy to figure that a few no-shows will leave us in the hole.

We are looking forward to a great time together on July 28 & 29, 2000 here in Milton.

Rodney & Ann