

# LEWIS FAMILY NEWSLETTER

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This issue of our newsletter is kinda late. I have been tied up with 35 local Republican Candidates running for office. Our First Primary was September 5 and yours truly worked at the polls (a 15 hour day) plus two days training prior to election. The Second Primary (run-off election between the two top vote-getters in five of the nine Primary races), another 15 hour day for yours truly, will be on October 3. We have five races in the October primary. Then we really get busy for the November General Election. Who said retirement was a time to relax and listen to the weeds grow? Anyway I made time to get this letter out because you all deserve it.

The year 2000 Lewis Family Reunion is now history. Those of us who attended had a great time, but we missed seeing you who were not there with us. We had only 28 for dinner on July 28<sup>th</sup>. The meal and fellowship was most enjoyable. Although it is a shame for someone, not our Reunion account, to pay \$100 for the Garden Club which will seat over 125 for just a few who show up. Next year we probably should try to find some place, possibly a restaurant who can accommodate our small group and have a Dutch treat dinner. Think it over, and let me know what you want to do.

The Saturday picnic was better attended with about 65 present. We had great visits and plenty of delicious dishes, including yummy desserts. Everyone went away satisfied and looking forward to next year.

We found three new cousins this year. Betty Clark, Neva Creighton, and Carol Doremus. Betty and Neva are sisters and their grand

mother or great grand mother was the sister of Nicie Strickland, Coot Lewis' wife and my grandmother. Carol is one of their cousins. I did not make the exact connection. They are all lovely ladies and we sure had a time trying to figure our lineage. It seems there was a Pace ancestor in there somewhere, but none of us could identify the name. Maybe Lucille and give us a hand. We all agreed to talk more during the year and see what kind of history we could come up with. They were referred to Joyce Nelson and June McLeod as our family historians and keepers of the scrolls.

In early August I received the following letter from Betty Clark:

"To all our new found cousins c/o Rodney Rollo.

We, Betty & Neva, wish to send great big hugs for our wonderful "Welcome" to the Lewis Family Relatives we knew were out there, but had not made connection till a great lady, Joyce Nelson, put us on the right path.

Thanks ever so much for the open arms and hope we can now stay in touch to learn more about our mother's relatives we had not had the pleasure of meeting before.

'Nuff said,

Lovingly,  
Betty, Neva, & Charles too"

Note: Charles is Neva's husband.

At our Friday night dinner, Joyce Nelson and June McLeod brought copies of their

extensive genealogical research on the Lewis Family. Everyone enjoyed looking at their family tree and seeing where each one fitted into the family. Also they brought along a picture of the Bagdad mill employees taken on the last day the mill was in production (1939). It was heart warming to stand by Vernon Cobb and Margaret Lewis and hear them name off just about all, of the probably, 100 plus people in the picture.

The Saturday Family picnic was just great. Had a bout 65 + or - show up. As always we had great dishes, good fellowship, and just enjoyed the day together. The party broke up about 3PM and folks went their separate ways.

All in all we had a very nice reunion, but as always we would liked for it to be better attended. Maybe next year.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Our finances are in good shape. We have \$275 in the checking account and \$8510 in CDs paying 6.25% interest. The interest is credited to the Checking Account on a Quarterly Basis. This will keep up our Cemetery Maintenance and pay some toward the Newsletter. In early September we combined the CDs we held into one and added \$500 from those of you who answered our call to provide funds to add to the CD account to help pay for the Newsletter. We thank those of you who helped with this project. We will keep track of the expenses and let you know if we need more for the Newsletter.

## **CEMETERY REPORT**

We are very fortunate to have Mike Pendleton to do our maintenance. He is very conscientious and is proud to be a part of the RPC. While the Cemetery is not maintained like a perpetual care cemetery, it

is maintained in such a state that no one will ever be able to say "It is abandoned", and attempt to take it from us. We continue to pay Mike only \$25 per month which is a very good price compared to others yard work contractors. We are also very fortunate to have Dr. Smith as our neighbor. He also does a lot of work in the Cemetery. Remember, anytime any of you want to go down the RPC for a workday weeding flower beds, etc. just let us know.

Mike Lewis has agreed to continue the Lewis Funeral Home ad on the Newsletter. This ad goes a long way toward getting the Newsletter to you. We all thank Mike, Sammy and all the employees of the Funeral Home for their interest in the RPC and Newsletter.

We will make this a short Newsletter and print in a different format this time. We will return to our usual format in the future.

Again, we enjoyed being a part of the Y2K Lewis Family activities and will continue serving you as long as we are able and you want us to continue.

Keep us posted on what you would like to read in the newsletter.

**REMEMBER THE LEWIS FAMILY WILL BE ON JULY 27 & 28, 2001. MAKE YOUR PLANS TO ATTEND.**

Until next time,

Rodney & Ann