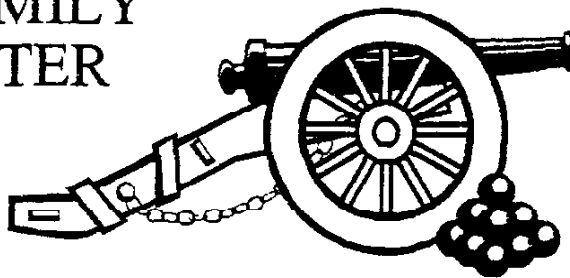


# LEWIS FAMILY NEWSLETTER

5924 STARLITE LN  
MILTON, FL 32570  
(904)623-0572  
FAX (904)626-2126



PROUD DESCENDANTS OF:

JESSE & NANCY COBB LEWIS  
EARLY SETTLERS OF  
BAGDAD, FL.

VOLUME 3 JANUARY 1996

Tis the day before Christmas and all through the house  
the only creature stirring is my Microsoft mouse.

As I sit at the keyboard just clicking away  
I ponder the meaning of this special day.

The gifts have been mailed and delivered with care.  
O how we wish we could also be there.

But alas and alack it was not meant to be,  
so we're happy at home Ann, "Blondie", and me.

I realized at last, to make things even better,  
we really should start on our family newsletter.

This is a chore that gives me such bliss  
since it's for our extended family by the name of  
LEWIS.

As you read this January newsletter we hope you will see  
you hold a special place in the hearts of Ann,  
"Blondie", and me.

We hope in July you will come visit our town,  
'cause that is the time our reunion goes down.

We have dinners, trips, and picnics all planned,  
but they won't be the same if you're not on hand.

Please enjoy your visit, but if some time you are free  
come by 5924 Starlite for a visit with Ann,  
"Blondie", and me.



It seems such a long time since we had our last  
conversation, so let's try to catch up on what has  
happened since we last communicated with you all.

>> The month of September rocked along rather  
smoothly. Lucille Fraas and Celia Turner, a cousin  
from Perry, Fl. and a Great grand daughter of Henry  
Jackson Lewis came to Milton for several days to  
vacation and work at Robinson Point Cemetery. Both  
of these fine ladies enjoyed themselves. Lucille got

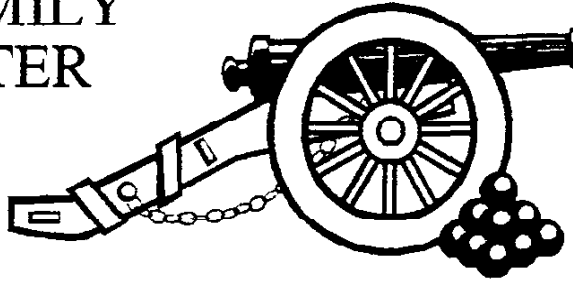
to visit with Ida Mac Hudson and Nicie Harrison her  
sisters from Pensacola (I must say they both were  
most helpful at the cemetery). They, along with their  
niece Delores Mason of California, all visited their  
sister Emma in Marianna, Fl. I do not know if Celia  
would consider doing yard work for a living but if she  
would she would really be an asset to some nursery.  
She is a CHAMP. Celia and I had the privilege to  
have a long visit with Asa Lewis of Bagdad, who is  
also from the family of Henry Jackson Lewis. Asa is  
a person whom we should all get to know. He is a  
veritable fountain of information on Milton in the old  
days. While these fine ladies were in Milton we also  
had several meals together. One night we all went to  
Gator's for delicious fried Mullet, Cheese grits, Hush  
Puppies, etc. We were lucky because we got to see  
the Alligators when they came up to the back of the  
restaurant to feed. Another night we went to  
Grandma's for dinner. A great time was had by all.  
Bet you think all we do in Milton is have good times  
with visits from our cousins. Well, that is the  
highlight of our year, HOWEVER

>> Hurricane OPAL paid us a visit on October 8 and  
believe me she was about the same type visitor as  
ERIN her sister hurricane who came calling in  
August. OPAL was predicted to be a Category V  
storm with winds in excess of 155 MPH and come  
ashore in Pensacola. If that had happened, which  
thank God it didn't we probably would not have a  
reunion in 1996. Destruction would have been so  
extensive that we would not have been rebuilt by  
July. I really do believe God smiled on us when the  
storm, within the last 2 hours before landfall, lost  
velocity down to about 100 MPH, veered to the North  
East, and came ashore at Navarre Beach in Santa  
Rosa County. Milton was spared the brunt of the  
storm with winds of about 90 MPH. Navarre and  
Navarre Beach were devastated.

>> October 22 brought another surprise visitor for us  
when Joyce Murphy called and told us she had been  
invited by the Northwest Florida Geneological  
Society to attend a seminar on the weekend of  
October 28. We invited her to spend the weekend  
with us at our humble digs at 5924 Starlite, which we  
refer to as "OLEO ACRES" (THE LOW PRICE  
SPREAD). Joyce arrived on the 26th and we had a

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wonderful three or four days. She attended the seminar in the day and we talked, ate (had dinner at the Cock-O-The Walk who serves some of the best turnip greens you have ever eaten), and just enjoyed getting to know each other as second cousins. Joyce's grandfather, Bud Lewis, was my mother's older brother. It may not be politic to say but if ever two people in one family bonded with one another it was my Mama and Uncle Bud. (See picture elsewhere in this newsletter).

>> We continue to get cards, letters and pictures from some family members thanking us for the newsletter, telling us how they read it over and over while awaiting the next issue, how they wish so much that they could attend the reunions but are unable to because of age and infirmities. Let me quote for you one card from an elderly family member "You have a special way of doing things - so that long after the occasion is past - Something beautiful remains for the memory to hold". This lady is well up in her eighties, she and her husband are unable to travel but they are still VERY MUCH a part of the LEWIS family. Let us never forget that one day we too will be there.

## CEMETERY UPDATE

We continue to do well with contributions toward the maintenance of our Robinson Point Cemetery. The grounds are well maintained, thanks to Mike Pendleton who does the routine maintenance of the cemetery. You all continue to send along your \$25 per month contributions to cover the monthly maintenance. Since our September newsletter we have had Fred Bonifay and Ina Holifield contribute to the maintenance fund. Those of you who pledged and paid last year know who you are and we look forward to your contribution for your "adopted month". We all have to remember it costs us \$300 per year (\$25 per month) for routine maintenance. If each one or each family contributes once a year we will always have sufficient funds to cover routine maintenance and accomplish our future goals such as erecting a monument listing all those buried in Robinson Point Cemetery. **THIS WE CAN DO!!!**

## COOK BOOK UPDATE

In our last two newsletters we mentioned that Joyce Murphy was preparing a LEWIS FAMILY COOK BOOK which she hopes to have available at our reunion in July. We asked you all for recipes but maybe in my enthusiasm and thinking about old timey recipes I misled you into thinking that your up-to-date recipes were not wanted. PLEASE FORGIVE ME. What we really want is to publish a cook book which will include your FAVORITE recipes regardless of when they were first used. WE WANT THIS TO BE A "LEWIS FAMILY COOK BOOK" which every time it is used will remind us of our extended family and serve as a "tie that binds".

To date Joyce has only heard from two or three of our family. In order to continue with this attempt to publish the cook book we MUST HAVE YOUR INPUT.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THE COOK BOOK YOU MUST HAVE YOUR RECIPES TO JOYCE BY FEBRUARY 15, OTHERWISE WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO COMPILE IT AND HAVE READY FOR THE REUNION IN JULY.

PLEASE SEND YOUR RECIPES TO JOYCE AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS: JOYCE MURPHY 711 DICKEY DR., EULESS, TX 76040.

If you want to pre-order a copy of the cook book complete the following and sent to Joyce at the above address:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

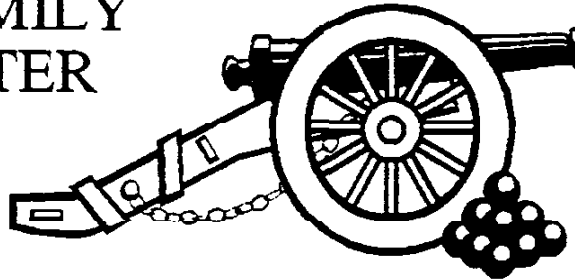
Number of books to reserve \_\_\_\_\_

The cost of the cook book will be no more than \$10.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST!!!**

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## REUNION DATES JULY 26 & 27

These are dates you DO NOT want to forget. Make plans now for you and your family to spend the weekend in beautiful Milton, Florida home of our ancestors. We have plans to visit many of our old home sites, work places such as saw mills, brick yards, farms, bays, and other historic sites within Santa Rosa County. We have the perfect tour guide in Mr. Warren Weekes, who spoke to us at our last year's dinner. Warren is a local historian of note and has been responsible for much of the restoration of local historical sites in the county. He has agreed, after much persuasion, but not exclusively by yours truly, to conduct the tour for us because he seems to be taken by our family, but not necessarily yours truly.

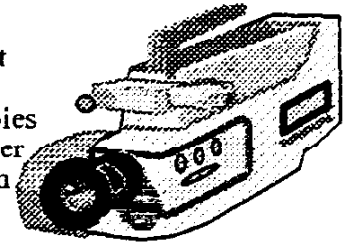
Betty Wolfe, as you know is our program chairman and she is making arrangements for bus or van transportation. We need to know approximately how many of us will be going on the historical tour on Friday July 26 from about 9AM to 2:30PM.

Following the tour we will have dinner at the Locklin Education Building, Santa Rosa Medical Center (the same location as last year). We will have a buffet dinner and entertainment. I have not spoken to Betty today so I do not know if she got in touch with Elvis on his birthday yesterday (Jan. 8). She had him scheduled last year but he was unable to appear. We can only look forward to this time. I understand he still puts on quite a performance. We don't want you to miss it!! **PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE TOUR AND/OR THE DINNER!!** Thanks to your generous support we will be able to keep the costs to a minimum. The entire day should not cost more than \$12 per person.

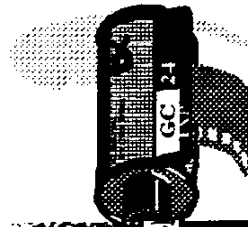
Saturday July 27 we will gather at Carpenters Park on the beautiful Blackwater River in downtown

Milton for our family pot luck picnic. You all know how much fun this is for all of us. All you have to do is bring a covered dish, your favorite beverage, and that is all. We will have everything else provided. Probably, even left overs from the Friday dinner. I remember last year the dish of okra and tomatoes was one of the highlights of the picnic and that was left over from Friday. Some of us just cannot overcome our love of leftovers.

We mentioned in our last newsletter that Joyce Murphy was making copies of the 1995 reunion dinner and picnic. She has them completed along with a typed copy of Warren Weekes' talk about the early settlers of Santa Rosa County. We have six (6) copies of the video tape and talk available for \$15 for the two. All proceeds go toward family reunion activities and expenses, including this newsletter.



Joyce has been generous enough to provide these to us at no cost. We thank you Joyce!



### WHO DAT?



Left to Right: Betty Duffield, Joyce Murphy, Warren Weekes, and "Duffy" Duffield. Aug. 12, 1995



FAMILY OF WILLIAM SHERWOOD "COOT" LEWIS

Grandma Nicie Lewis seated, to her left is Ruben "Rube", Martha, James "Bud", Frank, Frances, Nancy, and Lina on Grandma's lap. About 1900 since my Mama, Lina, was born in 1898.



Uncle Bud and Mama on her front porch in Milton, 1995  
1955

TIL NEXT TIME Rodney