

PROUD DESCENDANTS OF:

JESSE & NANCY COBB LEWIS
EARLY SETTLERS OF
BAGDAD, FLORIDA

LEWIS FAMILY NEWSLETTER

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VOLUME 4

Here it is getting on toward the last of May and it is time that we got the Newsletter off to the folks before they think we have given up on writing one. NO WAY!! This Newsletter is what keeps us young and our juices flowing. It keeps us aware of our family members no matter where they are or what the circumstances.

Since our last issue of the Newsletter we have had Lucille Fraas and Celia Turner visit us for a Cemetery Trustees Meeting which was held in February. Will report on it later in this issue. Don't know of any other visitors who came our way. We told you last time that Joyce Nelson was relocating from Texas to Milton. Well she moved in and is all settled. She is quite happy with her new surroundings. She has taken part in many of the local activities and is just about one of the busiest persons around.

When any of you out of town family members visit Milton please at least give us a call or some way let us know you were here so that we may recognize your visit. There are several of us who would like to join you visitors for a lunch or dinner.

CEMETERY REPORT

As mentioned above the Robinson Point Cemetery Trustees met on February 20 in the RPC. What a beautiful day we were given to meet and conduct the business of proper management of our ancestral graveyard. The weather was one of the most pleasant days I can remember in February. We, Dr. Charles Smith, Chairman; Betty Wolfe, Secretary; Lucille Fraas, Celia Turner, Lana Allen, and

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yours truly, Rodney Rollo, Treasurer. Lillian Richburg was absent because of illness in her family.

Please bear with me while I tell you a bit about the RPC Trustees. Dr. Smith, Chairman is the owner of the property adjacent to the RPC. Betty Wolfe, Secretary is a descendant of "Coot" Lewis. Rodney Rollo, Treasurer, and Lucille Fraas are also descendants of "Coot". Lillian Richburg is a descendant Henry Jackson Lewis. Lana Allen is descended from "Sease" Lewis, and Celia Turner is a descendant of Henry Jackson Lewis. All of these fine people are dedicated to the Robinson Point Cemetery. They only want one thing. **THAT IS TO INSURE WE ALWAYS HAVE A MEMORIAL GRAVEYARD DEDICATED THOSE BURIED THERE.**

I can report to you that your Trustees are serving you well. They are extremely interested in the financial condition of the RPC, are always looking for ways to improve the beauty of the RPC and at the same time keep the costs to a minimum. You can believe me none of your trustees receive or expect to receive and compensation for what we do.

Dr. Smith opened the meeting about 2:30 P.M. The minutes of the prior Trustees meeting were approved as read. The Treasurer presented each member a copy of a report showing all transactions since the last meeting. The report shows a balance of \$226.63 in the Maintenance Fund; \$146.83 in the Reunion Fund; for a total checking balance of \$373.46. We also have a Certificate of Deposit for \$1000 and a Savings Account with \$441.44. The interest from the

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CD is credited monthly to the Savings Account. As you know the CD and Savings are for future projects approved by the Trustees.

Under new business we discussed the Bagdad Water System new policy of charging cemeteries for water usage. The final upshot after Dr. Smith attended a Water System meeting and argued our case was that they would not charge for the connection (\$40) but would begin charging for usage. The minimum charge is \$7.00 per month. We also discussed a long range beautification plan for the RPC. Lana Allen and husband Bud will draw up a plot design for us. There was some discussion as to whether the RPC should be an "active" cemetery or remain a "memorial" to those already buried there. After a lengthy but friendly discussion it was voted to continue the RPC as a Memorial. The size of the cemetery, logistics of burial, and many other points were discussed before the decision was made. It was voted upon to purchase two truck loads of fill dirt for use along the down slope East of the parking lot. Mike Pendleton our very capable and loyal maintenance man will be on hand when the dirt is delivered and will level the fill. The meeting adjourned about 3:45 P.M.

Since our last Newsletter we have had contributions from Donna Buchanan, Betty Duffield, Betty Wolfe, Rodney Rollo, Lucille Fraas, and Celia Turner. We thank you all. As of May 26 we have \$228.53 in Maintenance, \$141.27 in Reunion for a total of \$369.80. You can see we are keeping even but we are not putting anything by for future use. If you loved your Mother, Father, and other ancestors why not make a \$25 contribution to the RPC in their memory. We mail this newsletter to 100 Lewis Families. We find it hard to believe that only about 10-12 are able to contribute. Remember RPC is not only our ancestral graveyard it is probably the only place that the public can go to the shore of Blackwater Bay without crossing some ones private property. If you would only visit the RPC we believe you would come to appreciate what the Lewis Family has

there.

We discussed earlier the plot design Lana & Bud were going to draw up for us. Well they have completed their task and what a beautiful thing it is. A reduced copy of the original is included in this newsletter. We know you will like it. How thankful we are to have such talented relatives who are willing to provide such services to us at no cost. Thanks Lana and Bud!!

REUNION

The reunion planning committee has met and finalized the plans for this years reunion on July 25 and 26.

REVISED PLANS FOLLOW:

Friday July 25 1997

An 8:30 Dutch treat breakfast at Reggie's Seafood & Bar-B-Que located about 1 mile EAST of Milton on U.S. Highway 90. They serve very good meals at a good price. Following breakfast about 9:30 we will go to Robinson Point Cemetery where we can just enjoy the beauty of the place and spend some time remembering our ancestors. We are not planning a work time but if any of you are so inclined please do whatever turns you on.

From the cemetery about 11 A.M. we will visit the Bagdad Museum and view one of the very few films (about 20 minutes) of the Bagdad Sawmill. A short lecture about Bagdad will be presented. The Museum is very interesting and complete with many pictures and relics of the sawmill days. Most of our ancestors made their living at the mill.

Next about noon we will visit Milton's Very Own Swimming Hole - POND CREEK for lunch consisting of sandwiches, soft drinks, and hopefully a large chilled watermelon. Pond Creek is spring fed and all children

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from 5 to 90 enjoy dipping in the cold cold waters. Not deep but fun. If by chance you don't like the creek WAL-MART is next door in the shopping center. The LAST thing we have planned for Friday is a Dutch treat dinner at Gator's located on Highway 87 South about 8 miles from Milton. Gator's is on Yellow River and most evenings you can see the gators swimming over to feed on some of the good mullet trimming that Gator and his helpers save for them. We should plan meeting at Gator's about 5 P.M. The food is great and the price good. So please make your plans to join us.

Please remember that this is YOUR day and you will not be regimented and any way. There will be no costs other than the Dutch treat meals. We hope you will join us for the entire day but feel free to take part in what appeals to you.

To help us in planning please complete and return the following:

I/we plan to attend the Friday July 25, 1997 activities checked below: Number in party.

Dutch treat Breakfast: _____

Cemetery visit _____

Museum visit _____

Pond Creek Lunch _____

Gators Restaurant _____

Signed _____

SATURDAY JULY 26, 1997:

We have CHANGED the Reunion site FROM Carpenters Park TO the Historic Arcadia Mill Site.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE CHANGE

Arcadia is a historical site restored by the Santa Rosa County Historical Society and has a museum, Curator/Historian (Mr. Warren Weekes), nature trails, suspension bridges, flora identification, mill sites, and other early industrial site restorations. We feel this is a good place for our Saturday family Reunion. There is a huge rustic home/museum with a country porch on all sides which is most adequate for our picnic. There will be guided tours for those who care to join. Historical videos for "sitters & watchers", swimming in Pond Creek for the adventurous. We hope you will be as excited about it as we are. **THE COST IS RIGHT (NONE)**. We will cancel our reservations at Carpenter's Park and use the \$35 to provide lunch on Friday.

The only thing different for YOU is the LOCATION!! Maps will be included in the July newsletter.

Make your plans to attend both the Friday and Saturday activities. We are trying to make this an occasion for all ages and interests, without your in-put we can only guess. Remember all you have to bring is a covered dish, your favorite beverage, family pictures, a happy face, a good appetite, and a good spirit.

Motel Reservations: CALL

Hospitality Inn 623-3821
Red Carpet Inn 626-7631

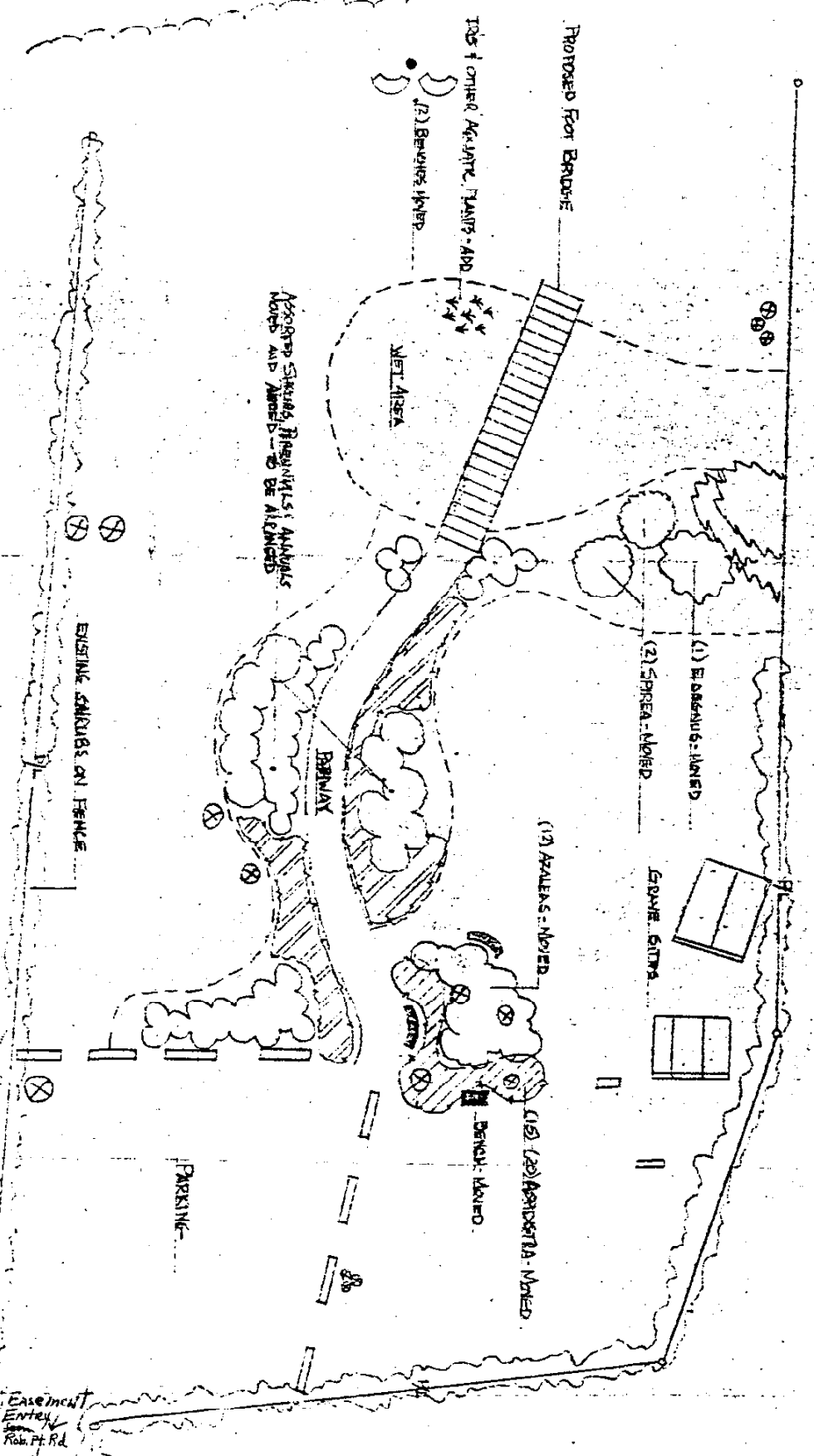
Please let us know your plans and keep in touch.
DONT FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR INFORMATION FOR FRIDAY JULY 25.

Till next time, RODNEY & ANN

BLACK WATER BAY

Notes:

1. REMOVE (4) STUMPS - AND FILL AS NECESSARY.
2. REMOVE ALL BRUSH FROM AROUND SHRUBS.
3. REALIGN PARKING BENCHES PER PLAN.
4. RELOCATE: SPIREA, ELAEAGNUS, GAMBURIA, AMPHIBIA, AND AZALEAS PER PLAN.
5. RESTAKE MARKED AT FENCE.
6. MOVE (1) BEE CEDAR CLOSER TO FENCE.
7. CLEAN OUT UNNECESSARY WEED GROWTH/DIE UP PROXIMITY TREES.
8. MOVE (2) RED TIP PHANOMA TO FENCE WITH OTHERS.
9. RELocate BENCHES AS SHOWN.
10. MOVE ALL SMALL DOWNED TREES TO NEW BED.
11. DEVELOP NEW PLANT BED AS SHOWN PER PLAN.



PROPOSED LANDSCAPE PLAN FOR:

ROBINSON POINT CEMETERY

ROBINSON POINT FLORIDA.

SCALE: ONE INCH EQUALS TEN FEET.
 DRAWN BY PAUL & LANA ALLEN
 APRIL 1997 (904) 623-9929