

LEWIS FAMILY NEWSLETTER

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PROUD DESCENDANTS OF JESSE LEWIS AND NANCY JANE COBB LEWIS EARLY SETTLERS OF BAGDAD, FLORIDA

VOLUME 6

DECEMBER 1998

Summer has now been replaced with the Fall season. Here in Milton we have been having some beautiful weather. The days are mild to warm, fairly low humidity, and little rain. The nights are just right for sleeping with the windows open and enjoying the fresh air. Unfortunately, we are not blessed with this type weather for very long. Guess though if we were we would eventually complain about that also. We should be grateful for what we have and try not to complain.

Today is November 21 and with Thanksgiving just around the corner we are planning on having Thanksgiving dinner with our nephew, Jim and Sue Clark here in Milton. We look forward to the fellowship and good food together. Speaking of Thanksgiving, we in the Lewis family have many things to be thankful for: Our friendship and family ties to one another; our annual reunion when we can all gather together for a few days of renewal; your kindness in remembering our on-going Robinson Point Cemetery commitments; and the bountiful blessings we have by living in a free society.


 *Before drawing boards were invented,
what did we go back to?*

CEMETERY REPORT

Around the first of October we were visited by a major hurricane, Georges, which skirted our coastline and finally came ashore in the Biloxi-Gulfport area in Mississippi. We here in Milton

experienced some pretty high winds, about 20 inches of rain, some severe flooding, but fortunately no loss of life. The RPC had water almost us to the burial sites. We lost one tree and the entire cemetery was covered with fallen limbs, branches, and other debris. Thanks to Mike Pendleton we now have the RPC back in good condition. Mike spend at least two days working in the RPC. We paid him an extra \$25 for his additional time spent in clearing and removing the debris.

In our last newsletter we wrote we told you that Henry McLeod would lead in researching the costs involved in obtaining and installing a brass plaque listing names of those buried in the RPC. I have recently received from Lucille Fraas such a list containing 18 names and will forward it on to Henry. We will keep you posted on the results of this research.

 *Don't sweat the petty things, and
don't pet the sweaty things!*

NEWS FROM YOU ALL

We received a nice note from Lilyon Alton giving us her new address which is: 3076 95th Dr #38 Live Oak, FL 32060-8523. Lil is now involved with a small camp store at Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park (exit 40 off I-10 at Live Oak. Lil says she is enjoying herself very much and invites any of us passing her way to "stop by and see me". Just ask at the office and they will point you down the street to her store.


Received an e-mail from Robert (Bob & Connie) Smith of Marianna recently. Bob gave us a report on his Mother Emma Hinote Smith. I might add Emma is my first cousin and sister of Lucille Fraas and Nicie Harrison. Emma is now "89 years young" and Bob says "A stroke and advanced age have robbed her of many of the abilities we take for granted...until we lose them." Emma's address is: Emma Smith, Magnolia Manor 3996 W. LaFayette St., Marianna, FL 32446. She will not be able to reply but "she loves to get mail." Bob also asked if anyone has information about the Cobb line of our family. So, if you have any information about our grand parent Nancy Cobb Lewis please get in touch with Bob at 4671 Shankle Dr., Marianna, FL 32466. Bob sent along the e-mail address of his daughter Sarah Boyles who is a Master's student (and employee) at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Sarah's e-mail address is srs@swbts.swbts.edu I might add that Sarah has been sending me some very interesting e-mail. I think you would like to get in touch with her.

As mentioned in our last newsletter Lucille Fraas did visit her sister Nicie Harrison between Sep. 14 and 19. She was met at the airport by Nicie's daughter Dorothy Pierce of South Carolina. Dorothy, Nicie, Lucille visited Emma, Bob & Connie in Marianna and also stopped by Milton. A group of us Joyce Nelson, Duffy & Betty Duffield, Betty & Bill Wolfe, and Ann & I met Lucille, Nicie, and Dorothy for breakfast at Reggie's. Everyone enjoyed getting together and following a good meal some of us visited the RPC where we spent some additional time together. Lucille is doing quite well. She is still very active and really enjoyed visiting RPC again.

Betty & Duffy are planning to visit Joyce again in early December to participate in the Santa Rosa County Historical Society's annual parade of homes. I think I mentioned this annual event in one of our earlier newsletters. Anyway the event features visits to a number of the historic homes in

the Milton-Bagdad area. Each home is decorated and has guides dressed in period costumes greeting visitors. A meal is usually included in the event. We hope for good weather for this annual event. It will be nice to visit with Bet & Duffy again.

After the hurricane in October we received several calls from some of our cousins who were concerned about our welfare and the damage incurred in the area. As you may know Milton made the national news when it was CORRECTLY reported that we had received 25 inches of rain in a 24 hour period. That rainfall occurred in Munson about 20 miles north of Milton. We thank all who called to inquire about our area.

 *Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish and he will sit in a boat all day and drink beer.*

FINANCES

There have been few financial transactions since our last newsletter. We mailed the newsletter for a cost of \$40.99 which comes out to \$.41 per copy. We received a contribution from Lilyon Anton and paid for routine RPC maintenance plus, as mentioned earlier, an additional \$25 for cleanup following hurricane Georges. This leaves us with balance of \$226.31 in the checking account as of Nov. 21. We will be paying another maintenance charge and mailing you this newsletter early in December.

If you have been intending to contribute toward the maintenance of RPC and toward payment of the newsletter you receive, this would be AN IDEAL time to do so. Let me say again, I find it **inconceivable** that of the 101 families who receive this newsletter only about 12 or 15 families are financially able to contribute at least \$25 per year toward this **ongoing family project**.

I want to believe that the others of you who **DO NOT CONTRIBUTE** have the financial resources to do so, but just are remiss in making your contribution.

I encourage you to join us and be a part of this **FAMILY PROJECT** to memorialize our departed loved ones.

☺ *A lady was picking through the frozen turkeys at the super market, but couldn't find one big enough for her family. She asked the stock boy, "do these turkeys get any bigger?" The stock boy replied, "No ma'am, they're dead."*

LOOKING AHEAD

Mark your calendar for **JULY 23 & 24, 1999**. These are the days we have set aside for our 7th annual **LEWIS FAMILY REUNION**.

Plans are now being made for a great in-gathering of you, our family members. In addition to a Dutch treat breakfast and a catered dinner on Friday and our Saturday picnic, we are making plans for some musical entertainment, comedy routines, and another enlightening historical talk. Those of you who attended last years event will remember the outstanding give and take we had during Mr. Warren Weekes' presentation. We hope he will be kind enough to join us in 1999. I can assure you we will ask him.

One other thing we may plan if you all express any interest is a visit to the Railroad Museum in the Old L&N Railroad Depot here in Milton. They have a display railroad memorabilia along with a working telegraph system and model train cars, engines, etc. **If this is of interest to you please let us know!!**

☺ *When you get to the end of your rope, Tie a knot and hang on!!*

We mentioned earlier in this newsletter that Lucille had sent a list of those buried in Robinson Point Cemetery. If you would like a copy of this list which gives, in addition to names, the birth, marriage, death, source of information, and descendant or contact who provided the information please let me know and I will gladly send you a copy. Since it is two pages, I thought it too lengthy to include in the newsletter.

Today is November 27 and I am back to finish the newsletter. Yesterday was just great. Hope all of you had a very happy Thanksgiving. We sure did!! Jim & Sue, our hosts for Thanksgiving, left this AM visit an Aunt in Belle, FL which I understand is around Live Oak. I gave them Lilyon's address and they will drop in for a short visit. Things like their visit is a very good spin off of this Family Newsletter.

We are going to try to e-mail this issue to those of you on my e-mail address list as well as send you a copy by mail. Please, if you receive this on e-mail let me know. If you have an e-mail address and would care to share it with us we would appreciate it.

This about does it for now. Both Ann and I wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and the best for the new year.

Til next time,

Rodney & Ann