

the Rücker Family Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 11

Number 1

March 2000



Lila⁹
Deis,
daughter of
Edward
Deis and
Emma⁸
Jeanne
Rucker
(Joseph⁷

B., William⁶ E., Wilford⁵, James⁴, Mordecai³, William², Peter¹) is a soprano who has sung with orchestras on both sides of the Atlantic, including appearances with the Stuttgart Philharmonic l'Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, the Oratorio Society of New York and the Philadelphia Classical Symphony. She has been soloist in the Beethoven *Mass in C* with the New York Choral Society at Carnegie Hall and in Rossini's *Stabat Mater* and the Mozart *Requiem* with l'Orchestre Symphonique de Grenoble.

A versatile artist, she has been presented in solo recitals from New York to Texas, including the Dumbarton Avenue concert series in Washington, D.C. She has performed with leading opera companies, including Houston Grand Opera and the San Diego Opera Company and created the leading soprano role in *The Wrestler* by Samuel Adler.

FAMILY PROFILE

LILA DEIS

And her Musical Family

By Joe C. Nix

A sought-after chamber musician, Lila has collaborated with the Annapolis Brass Quintet, the New York Bach Ensemble and El Paso Pro-Musica, among others. She toured three continents as the soprano of the New York Vocal Arts ensemble, appearing at leading festivals in Europe and South America and in New York at Alice Tully Hall; with that solo quartet she won a unanimous first prize in the prestigious Geneva competition. Lila is a founding director of the Rockport Chamber Music Festival where she has performed with members of An Die Musik, the New England Woodwind Quintet, and the Manhattan String Quartet. She recorded *Carmina Burana* by Carl Orff. She has sung *Messiah* at Avery Fisher Hall in Lincoln Center and with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra in Dallas.

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The Rucker Family Society Newsletter
is published quarterly--Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec

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Annual Membership
\$7.00 individual
\$5.00 institutional

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Lila was born in and grew up in Dallas, Texas. After graduation from Indiana University, she continued her training and career in New York City. In 1969 she married Karl Lauby. They have one daughter, Alexandra Deis-Lauby, born October 24, 1990. Lila and her family live in New York City.

Lila is currently working on a CD called, *Classic Lullabies*, that will be available soon. She will be singing in Carnegie Hall again in December, 2000, this time soloing with the St. Cecilia Chorus.

Lila's parents, Edward Deis (1909-1954) and Emma Jeanne Rucker were also musicians who did a radio program and performed many concerts as duo pianists. They lived in Dallas, Texas where her mother currently lives. Her mother, in addition to her musical talents, is also a professional photographer. She took the photograph of Lila shown on page 1.

Lila's grandfather, Joseph Bates ("J. B.") Rucker (b. 27 Jan 1880 in Tennessee--d. 22 Apr 1949 in Dallas) was born in Chattanooga, TN and went to the University of Tennessee. He began to work for the Southern Railway. After moving to Dallas, Texas, he married in 1906 to Maude Gillespie (b. 16 Jul 1883--d. 17 Feb 1969, in Dallas). J. B. then joined his father-in-law in the real estate business. He helped develop large sections of Dallas.

J. B. and Maude Rucker were a prominent force in musical circles in Dallas. J. B. was well known as a bass soloist, and was active in the Dallas Symphony Orchestra Association. During a 40 year period, he had been a soloist with 11 Dallas churches as well as the orchestra. J. B. was the first treasurer of the orchestra and was responsible for hiring the first 25 musicians around whom the orchestra was formed.

Maude began her musical career as a soloist during her college years and represented the State of Texas in concert at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair. She attended private schools in Dallas and was a graduate of Kidd-Key College. She also attended the Chicago Musical College and had studied music under Harald von Mickwitz, a Finnish pianist-teacher who greatly influenced Texas musical tastes in the first quarter of the 20th century. In a long concert career, she toured the Southwest as artist-accompanist for many concert soloists and had appeared with the Chicago, Dallas and Louisiana State Symphony Orchestras. In 1911 she became the first pianist to perform Tchaikovsky's *First Piano Concerto* with an orchestra in Dallas.

This musically talented family has delighted audiences for three generations and nearly one hundred years. We hope their talents will continue into the next generation.

ARTICLES WANTED

Many thanks to Joe Nix for contributing the family profile this quarter. What a lovely and talented family!

We are constantly seeking articles for future newsletters. Please consider writing a story about someone in your family.

Please submit articles, queries, obituaries, tidbits of information of interest to the family to the Editor, whose address is at the top of this page.

Joseph Allen Rucker and The Rucker Homeplace in Rutherford County, Tennessee

by Stephanie Routon Tayloe
Buchanan, TN

The house to which my grandfather, Edmund Birton Rucker was born in Rutherford County was still standing in the early 1950's. My uncle Robert Rucker had found the house through the help of the owner of the funeral home in Murfreesboro, who was his customer. He took us to see the house and I remember it like it was yesterday. The home had originally belonged to the Overall family eventually becoming a Rucker home through marriage.

BACKGROUND:

Joseph⁷ Allen Rucker was the son of Joseph⁶ Burton Rucker (Elzy⁵, Joel⁴, John³, Thomas², Peter¹) and Rebecca Champion. Joseph in the history of his life, wrote that he was born May 13, 1845. "My father was Joseph Burton Rucker, the son of Robert E. Rucker and his first wife, Sarah Gaines of Ruckersville, VA (See article on page 8). The Ruckers were regarded as prominent families in that part of Virginia. My mother told me that my father was an educated, honest and religious man, the kind whom all Christians love and respect."

He also told about the time, as a very young boy, his father took him to see James K. Polk, passing in a parade. He said the President did not live long after leaving public office.

Joseph went one term to the Nashville Military Academy but did not take to soldiering. At the Academy he became acquainted with Sam Davis, of Civil War fame. He described him as the most honest, steadfast and bravest boy he had ever known.

At the altar of old Rev. Nance Overall he accepted Christ and later married the granddaughter of Rev. Overall. In his writings he had recorded a small history of the Overall family, copied from the Bible

of Baxter D. Overall. He married Amelia Overall, the daughter of Baxter Overall and Martha Kirby, January 29, 1867, in Rutherford Co., TN.

Joseph was a schoolteacher. One morning he left for school, but upon reaching the front gate of their yard, felt so badly he turned back and told his wife he was too ill to go to school. He went to bed and died soon afterwards.

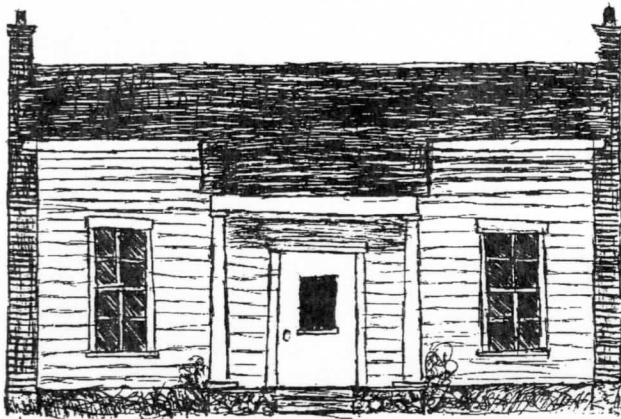
My grandfather, Edmund Birton Rucker was the eighth and last child of Joseph Allen Rucker and Amelia Kizaiah Overall while they still lived in the home, born in 1885. The name Birton was an old family name from his father's side and was originally spelled Burton. His father, died suddenly in September of 1885. Friends attending the funeral commented that it would not be long 'til the "sickly baby" would follow his father in death.

Edmund was loved and nourished by his widowed mother and elder siblings. He remained close to his mother because of this. She undoubtedly put her stamp on him through her deep religious beliefs and made him rather seriously structured. She held regular devotionals and they spent regular time together in prayer. At age 13 he was converted and united with the Overall Campground Methodist Church which Amelia's family had founded in the 1820's. He later became a minister and served the Memphis Methodist Conference from 1928 until 1946.

VISIT TO THE HOUSE

We turned off the main road onto a county road and traveled several miles, over several wooden bridges. It was a morning in June that we visited and an early rain that day had brought out snakes.

The white frame house stood in the curve of the road. The road ran in front of the house and turned down the south side of the house. The house was old and not in good repair. It had a forlorn and forsaken air about it. I guess some of this was due to a fenced off private burial plot in the rear yard where my great-grandfather Joseph Rucker and an infant daughter were buried. There were old large



trees in the yard, and under a Japonica bush in the yard lay part of my great-grandfather's tombstone without his name engraved. We picked it up and brought it home to have engraved, but instead time went by and it lay in our garage at the house on Pierce Street for twenty years and finally was lost.

An old couple lived in the house, but they did not invite us in. I could see it had a large hall with two large rooms on each side, and there was a room on the back with a long porch aside the back room. I do not know if there were rooms upstairs, but my mother remembers her father mentioning the boys sleeping upstairs.

There was a well, boxed in with a top and hanging bucket on the side, in the side of the front yard. At one time there had been a fence all around the yard. My grandfather and his mother left this home before 1900 and she died at their new home in Carroll County in 1904.

In the early 1940's my uncle Edmund took my grandfather and his three brothers, Robert, George and Al back to Rutherford County for a last visit to their old homeplace. This was their last visit to their father's grave and the homeplace.

My grandfather told my mother stories of his childhood that included his mother's religious dedication. She was Sunday School Superintendent of the Overall Church. She cooked on Saturday for Sunday as she believed in observing the Sabbath by no work in any way. They got up on Sunday and walked the miles to church.

Rutherford County is a beautiful county some thirty miles from Nashville. There are small hills, many streams and many rocks. Many of the streams have rock beds. Stone River, where one of the bloodiest Civil War battles took place, is in this county. I cannot pass thought Rutherford County without thinking of my grandfather Rucker, whom I never knew and the wonderful Rucker, Overall, and Kirby families who we are all descendants of, and their struggles and contributions to settle this county in its early days of existence.

The deeds show the land his mother sold in 1900 when she left Rutherford County for Carroll County had belonged to Baxter Overall, her father.

Note from Stephanie Tayloe: For over 30 years I have kept notes and am happy at last to get them on paper. Many thanks to all the cousins, uncles, aunts and others who have opened their family papers and history to me. But most of all I want to thank my mother Val Rucker Routon (Edmund⁸ B., Joseph⁷ A., Joseph⁶ B., Elzy⁵, Joel⁴, John³, Thomas², Peter¹) whose perfect memory and quick, total recall made her a wonderful storyteller. Her stories fired my imagination and fostered pride in my heritage. Tracing my family tree turned out to be more than just the pursuit of names and dates, but instead has led to lasting friendships of many long lost cousins.

P.S. The Rucker Family visited Rutherford Co., TN at the reunion in 1998.

Note to Stephanie: Have a new tombstone placed to your great-grandfather at the home site. Please do it before you forget where he was buried.

* * * * *

RECYCLE YOUR NEWSLETTERS:

Store your newsletters in a notebook for future reference. If you don't keep them, why not give them to a local genealogy library for others to see.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Just wanted to take a minute and bring you up to date. I think it was last April when I first found the Rucker Family society and you were so kind as to write me back with my lineage, not only correcting our confusion in those first 2 generations, but also pointing out my second line.

First thank you so much. As a beginner in this field it is so nice to meet people who are so willing to help. In the short 9 months since my father and I began this quest, we have:

1. Become Rucker Family society members and ordered all the back issues.
2. Been to Missouri and visited the Mt Vernon Courthouse and library which in 2 short days filled in so many gaps, met my father's first cousin and another cousins daughter, whom I had never met, and their families.
3. Found pictures of my great grandparents, no one on our side had seen them.... John Henry Rucker and his wife, Molly Faulkner.
4. Just this past month found John Henry Rucker's sister's grandchildren still living and are corresponding with this long lost branch.
5. Corresponded with a descendant of Edwards Louis's wife (Marion Fountain Daniel) family. I guess you would say she is my mentor and surely helped my learning curve. She's even a volunteer at a LDS library!!!

One of the things we were most curious about was my great-grandfathers murder in 1906 and when in Mt Vernon we found four articles on the murder and the story about the trial itself where the man who shot him was given 20 years in prison, even though we had been told that the newspaper had burned for the years 1905, 1906 and 1907. It was a big enough story that it was covered in the papers of the surrounding area.

We'd love to confirm where and when Edward Louis Rucker died...supposedly in Terre Haute, In 1872/3, but I guess all things will come in time! Although, I think I could write a book about his widow and five children!

We still have more to go and unanswered questions about Edward Louis's death, as we have not been able to confirm the info we have, but from 1880 forward we are almost complete!!!

Thanks again for all your hard work on behalf of the Ruckers...for those of us who grew up thinking it was the world's most obscure name this has been great fun!!! We are looking forward to the reunion...did I ever tell you this story? In 1992, our immediate family (my father and his brother and our families) had our every five-year get together in Nashville, TN. My cousin, Pam, had bright yellow t-shirts made up for us that said Rucker Reunion 1992 inside a red guitar. While at the amusement park a man came up to us and said "what Rucker reunion...am I missing one?" Well, we thought he was just a nut...obviously he was a Rucker Family Society member and thought he was missing one of your reunions...I wish we had quizzed him a little more and maybe we would have discovered this years earlier!

When I began all this I thought genealogy was for "old" people, that it was boring, that it was just looking up dead people...well nothing could be further from the truth, This has been so exciting, meeting new people, meeting family that are not even all that distant, learning about history in general and not just recording dates but actually trying to come to know those people that came before me...wow I had so many people to pray for this year at All Souls Day!!!

I know you must just have an overwhelming amount of info coming to you...I just wanted to thank you for what you do!

Hope to see you in October, at the Rucker Reunion,

Becky Rucker Edmondson

(James⁹ Frere Rucker, John⁸ William, John⁷ Henry, Edward⁶ Lewis, Isaac⁵, John⁴, John³, John², Peter¹) and (Isaac⁵ married Agnes⁵ Rucker, Abner⁴, Anthony³, John², Peter¹) <Rare05@aol.com>

IN MEMORIAM

MARGARET FIELD WILLIAMS RUCKER died February 16, 2000 in Charleston, SC where she lived with her daughter, Courtney Rucker. She is also survived by two sons, Douglas P. Rucker Jr. and M. Pierce Rucker of Richmond, VA, and one granddaughter, Louise Meredith Rucker of Fairfax, VA.



Margaret, born November 14, 1916, in Norfolk, VA was married April 4, 1941 to Douglas Pendleton Rucker, MD (Dr. Marvin⁷ Pierce, Dr. Edwin⁶ Timothy, Benjamin⁵ J., Isaac⁴, Ambrose³, John², Peter¹). Dr. Rucker died September 21, 1979.

The photo of Margaret was taken on her 80th birthday, in November of 1996.

Margaret attended Randolph-Macon Woman's College in Lynchburg, VA and graduated from Richmond Professional Institute (now Virginia Commonwealth University) in Richmond. She also received a Master's degree.

She organized the first Mothers' March of Dimes in Richmond. She was a President of the Women of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. She organized and was first president of the Women's Auxiliary of Johnston-Willis Hospital. She was also a member of several boards including the Sheltering Arms Hospital, a free hospital; the Memorial Guidance Clinic; the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Margaret was a Director Emeritus of the Virginia League for Planned Parenthood; served on the Board of Directors of the Museum of the Confederacy.

In 1967, she was chosen by Richmond

Newspapers, Inc. as the Christmas Mother of Richmond. The thing we are most proud of Margaret is that she was instrumental in saving the stone blocks from the Locks of the James River and Kanawha Canal, in Richmond, when threatened by bulldozers in the building of the downtown expressway in 1971. The blocks are now on view at the James Center in Richmond.

Margaret was very supportive of the Rucker Family Society. Her obituary was in the *Richmond Times Dispatch*, 17 Feb 2000. She was buried in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, VA.

* * * * *

ELIZABETH RUCKER WILLIAMS died at the age of 95, December 23, 1999. A former resident of Boone, North Carolina she was living in Charlotte at the time of her death.

A native of Bedford County, Virginia, she was born July 4, 1904, one of the thirteen children of Dr. Samuel L. Rucker and Elizabeth Phelps. She was a graduate of Farmville Teachers College in Farmville, VA and a former art teacher at Appalachian State Teachers College.

Elizabeth attended the First Baptist Church in Boone. She was buried at Mountlawn Memorial Park and Gardens in Boone.

She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Dr. Bill and Pauline Williams of Charlotte; a grandson, Joseph Allen Williams of Raleigh; a granddaughter, Jennifer Lynn Williams Gaeto of Columbia, SC; a brother, Dr. Richard A. Rucker of Bedford, VA, and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Ernestine Hagaman of Lenoir.

Article from *Watauga Democrat*, Boone, NC, 27 Dec 1999, submitted by her niece Linda R. Hubbard of Bethesda, MD.

Her line of descent: Dr. Samuel⁷ Leonidas ("Dr. Sam") Rucker (Joseph⁶ H., Anthony⁵, Ambrose⁴ Jr., Ambrose³, John², Peter¹).

IN MEMORIAM—con't

JOHN ("JACK") RUCKER JONES was born May 9, 1914 in Arlington, Virginia, and died January 29, 2000, age 85. A prominent real estate developer and business leader in Northern Virginia, Jack was president of George H. Rucker Real Estate Company of Arlington and a partner with his brother, Ashton C. Jones, Jr., in Jones & Jones, a regional real estate company.

Jack began his business career in 1936 with his family's business, Rucker Company, an Arlington real estate, insurance and mortgage company. He was involved with many commercial enterprises serving as board member of Peoples Life Insurance Co. and Capital Holdings Company of Louisville, KY and as board member and chairman of First Federal Savings & Loan Assn. of Arlington, and Continental Federal Savings Bank of Fairfax.

He was a founding member of Westover Baptist Church of Arlington in 1940 and active in church leadership and education there for many years. He served as president of Mount Vernon Baptist Association, as a member of the General Council of the Baptist World Alliance and chairman of the Council's Budget Committee. He traveled abroad extensively in promotion of the goals of Baptist World Alliance.

Jack's contribution to educational institutions and organizations included board membership and chairmanship of Fork Union Military Academy from 1954 to 1974, and A Presidential Classroom for Young Americans, of which organization he was co-founder in 1968.

His other community services included membership and presidency of Arlington Rotary Club, in which he was a founder of the Arlington Rotary Educational Foundation in 1958; board of trustees Children's Home Society of Virginia in Richmond; member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Woodlawn/Leighy Council; board of trustees Virginia Baptist Home for the Elderly, in Culpeper; member Executive

Committee Arlington Health and Welfare Council; and board of Arlington Hospital from 1963 to 1977.

Jack is survived by his wife, the former Helen Peck McClaugherty, who lives in Arlington; a son John Rucker Jones Jr. of Falls Church; a daughter Harriet Allen Jones Rucker of Peoria, IL; and three grandchildren, Rebecca and Andrew Jones of Falls Church and Derek Rucker of Minneapolis, MN.

Jack died at Powatan Nursing Home in Falls Church (Fairfax County) Virginia. He is interred at Columbia Gardens, Arlington, VA.

(Submitted by son-in-law, Michael P. Rucker of Peoria, IL. You may want to see the article Mike wrote on George H. Rucker Realty Co. which, of course, included Jack. RFSN, Vol 2, No.2.)

* * * * *

FIRST RUCKER BORN IN 2000

Congratulations to Sadi¹¹ Jean Lewis who was born January 16, 2000. Her line of descent is through: Benjamin¹⁰ Jacob Lewis, Penny⁹ Diane Vail, Margaret⁸ Lorraine Pannell, Harriet⁷ Verenda Clark, Margaret⁶ Elizabeth Rucker, William⁵ Taliaferro, William⁴, John³, Thomas², Peter¹.

Submitted by her great-grandmother, Lorraine Vail of Bakersfield, California.

* * * * *

CORRECTION

There is an error in the Rucker Family Society Newsletter Vol 10, No 4, Dec 1999 page 37 in the article of OPAL AND CECIL LEON COX 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY, Joyce Hoey was listed as a granddaughter. This should be Chrystal Hoey, not Joyce. Submitted by Cecillia COX Ostermeyer.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ROBERT ELZY RUCKER: NEW DISCOVERY!

In Sudie Rucker Wood's *The Rucker Family Genealogy*, p.297, there is a marriage listing for a Robert Rucker that we have not been able to identify.

Actually the listing is only partially correct, as it is in two parts:

=Robert Rucker, m. Oct. 9, 1806 Sallie Graves, Culpeper Co., Va.

=Richard Rucker, m. Sallie Gaines, daughter of Richard, Culpeper Co.

The correct listing is:

"Robert Rucker, m. 9 Oct 1806, to Sallie Gaines, daughter of Richard, in Culpeper Co., VA."

But who was Robert Rucker? There were no Robert Ruckers in early Rucker genealogy.

In 1998, Stephanie Routon Tayloe of Buchanan, Tennessee sent me a large packet of papers. In those papers was a document from Joseph B. Rucker of Rutherford Co., TN giving Power of Attorney to James Acklen to sell a tract of land in Buckingham County, Virginia that he owned with other heirs.

"I have lawful right to sell said land, having come to me from my mother, Sarah Gaines, the first wife of Robert Elzy Rucker, both deceased and being the only heir of said Union."

Elzy Rucker, son of Joel⁴ (John³, Thomas², Peter¹), is listed in Wood, p.181. Now we know he was Robert Elzy Rucker, married twice, 1st to Sallie Gaines, 2nd to Mary Burton.

Note from Stephanie: I said it before and will say it again You make us do our homework!

Write to me: Stephanie Routon Tayloe, 510 Hickory Drive, Buchanan, TN 38222.

E-mail <sata@compu.net>

THE INFAMOUS DR. RUCKER

The following article was submitted by Linda Rucker Hubbard of Bethesda, MD.

James Lewis Downey was a speaker at a chapter of the United daughters of the Confederacy at its September meeting in 1996. An article appeared in *The Covington Virginian* newspaper. At the meeting he told of local legends, one being about a Dr. Rucker who was a Union spy.

Just east of Island Ford Bridge, near a large spring was Steele's Tavern run by Pence Steele. During the War Between the States, Steele was a secret Union sympathizer and used his tavern as a station in the Underground Railroad. "Guests" would arrive with negro servants and other "guests" would depart for West Virginia with them.

Dr. Rucker would visit families as their doctor and engage them in conversation about their families in service, their cattle and other valuable property and convey that information to the enemy.

It was at Steele's Tavern that Dr. Rucker was reputed to have killed a man who discovered Rucker was Union spy. A grand jury indicted Rucker. However, he jumped bail and fled to West Virginia and was not re-captured. He returned with Crooke's troops and helped them burn the bridge at Griffith.

This, of course, was the infamous Dr. William Parks Rucker (Clifton⁶ H., Ambrose⁵, Reuben⁴, Ambrose³, John², Peter¹), born 9 Nov 1831, Lynchburg, VA, died 3 Jan 1905, Lewisburg, WV, at age 73.

For more information about Dr. Rucker, see the *Journal of the Greenbrier Historical Society*, Vol. III, No. 4, 1978. It said: After the war, he settled in Lewisburg, West Virginia. "Having been disabled to such an extent as to prevent him from again entering actively into the practice of medicine, he took up the law, serving for two years as prosecuting attorney of Greenbrier county and two years in Pocahontas."

KENTUCKY OBITUARIES

Submitted by Ron Payne

The following data was obtained from "Kentucky Obituaries, 1787-1854," compiled by G. Glenn Clift.

John Rucker, Sr., of Fayette County, died 23 Apr 1814, aged "62 years or upwards." [Lexington] "Kentucky Gazette," 2 May 1814 edition.

The "Lexington Kentucky Observer and Reporter," 22 Aug 1833 edition, published a list of residents who died from cholera between 1 Jun and 1 Aug 1833. Included in that list were "Barnet Rucker and wife".

Mrs. Caroline Rucker, consort of L. E. Rucker, of Woodford County, died in Dec 1816. "The [Lexington] Kentucky Reporter," 25 Dec 1816 edition.

Mrs. Margaret Rucker, consort of Lewis Rucker, of Georgetown, and daughter of Michael Goddard, died 18 Jan 1836. "Lexington Kentucky Observer and Reporter," 20 Jan 1836 edition.

Mr. T. T. Rucker of Lancaster, died 8 Jan 1836. "Lexington Kentucky Observer and Reporter," 20 Jan 1836 edition.

THE YEAR 2000 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW DUE

PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL TO SEE IF YOUR MEMBERSHIP HAS EXPIRED. THE FIRST NUMBER IS THE YEAR THROUGH WHICH YOU HAVE PAID, THE SECOND NUMBER IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER.

Please make check for membership, payable to The Rucker Society and

mail to: Mr. Lewis M. White, Treasurer

9751 Firth Court

Vienna, VA 22181

E-mail - <LewisWhite@compuserve.com>

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

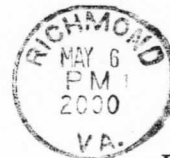
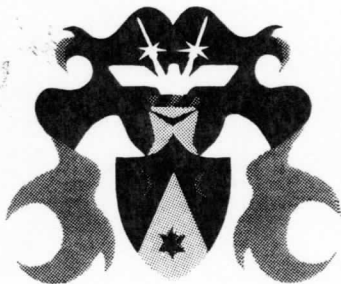
Our next Rucker Reunion will be held in Williamsburg, Virginia, October 13-15, 2000. We will have a meeting Saturday morning and will visit Jamestown Island, site of Peter Rucker's arrival in America, in the afternoon. This will be the 300th Anniversary of his arrival and I hope you will attend this exciting conference. Check out the Jamestown web site as it tells about the fabulous excavations there: <http://www.apva.org/>.

For hotel reservations, contact the Radisson Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center, P. O. Box 3050, Williamsburg, VA 23185, 1-757-220-2250, 1-800-333-3333. Please mention the name "Rucker" when you make your reservation to get our special rate of \$100 per room, plus tax.

A second motel, nearby, is holding rooms under the name Rucker. The price is \$50.00 a night. Quarterpath Inn, 620 York Street, Route 60 East, Williamsburg, VA 23185 800-446-9222. They also have a web site: <http://www.quarterpathinn.com/>. We always offer cheaper rooms nearby, but most of the events will be held at the Fort Magruder Inn.

The story of Becky Edmondson's Rucker t-shirt on page 5 was reminiscent of the Rucker Reunion we had in 1990 at Amherst Co., Virginia. The t-shirts, made by Ralph Smith (whose wife Faye is a Rucker) were also bright yellow and were pictured in Vol. 1, No. 2, August 1990, p.5. They must have been very much like the ones worn for the 1992 reunion in Nashville. Sorry we couldn't have joined forces for an earlier reunion, but hope Becky's family will join us in Williamsburg.

Jeannie



THE RUCKER FAMILY SOCIETY

PRESIDENT

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