

the Rucker Family Society

NEWSLETTER

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THE RUCKERS OF HILL CREST FARM - A RARE BREED by Michael P. Rucker

While visiting a registered Angus farm near my home in Peoria, Illinois, the breeder asked, "Are you kin to the Ruckers who breed top quality Angus in Virginia." He was speaking of John Rucker, of Delaplane, and his daughter, Sue, from whom he had purchased livestock.

The reputation of this Rucker family in breeding fine Angus is well established nationwide. The legend began in 1924 when John's father, Bayard (pronounced Biard) Ambrose Rucker, purchased his first registered cattle. John and his brother "B. A." (Bayard Ambrose Rucker Jr.)

followed their father in their farming careers, improving the reputation of their renowned herd over the years.

Bayard⁷ Ambrose Rucker (William⁶ Ambrose, William⁵ Ballinger, George⁴, John³, John², Peter¹) was born July 28, 1877, at a farm called Ridgeville near Delaplane in Fauquier County. He attended Virginia Agricultural & Mechanical College in Blacksburg (Virginia Tech) in 1897-1899, completing a two-year course that was thought to be "enough" at the time. He played baseball and football while at Tech.



Baseball Team: Bayard Rucker, in the back row, center, wearing dark sweater

Baseball became a lifelong interest for Bayard. After his college days, he began working on the family farm. According to his son John, "He used to ride a horse over the mountain and across the river (the Shenandoah) to play baseball at Winchester on a Saturday afternoon." He also told some wild tales about collecting his team mates from saloons after the game and getting them back across the river and home safely. As captain of the team,

he saw this as his duty.

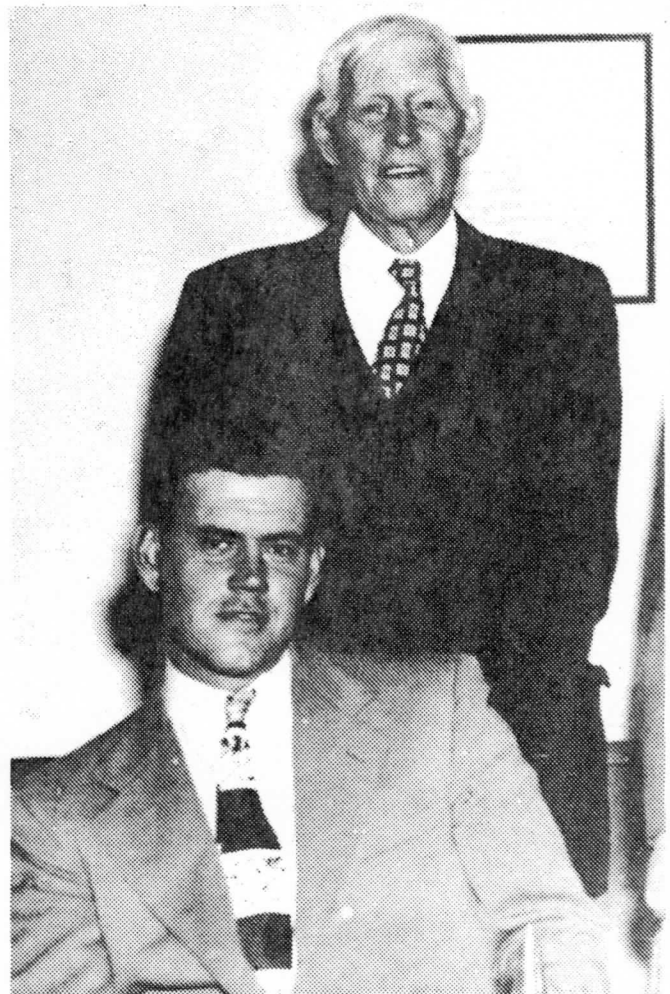
Bayard married Minnie Varner on December 19, 1908. They had four children: Margaret Ramey Rucker, B. A. Jr., Lelia Varner Rucker, and John William Rucker. The first three were born at Ridgeville Farm. In 1917 Bayard built a new home about a mile away which he named Hill Crest Farm. John was born there on May 11, 1921. He and his family still reside there.

John attended Fork Union Military Academy graduating in 1939. He then studied Animal Husbandry (now Animal Science) at Virginia Tech from which he graduated in 1943. He played football for Tech three years and was president of the Block and Bridle Club. John married Marjorie Virginia Thompson of Front Royal, Virginia, on August 9, 1946.

They have three daughters: Marjorie Connor ("Connie"), Joyce Pendleton ("Penny") and Susan Pritchard ("Sue"). Connie's daughter, Courtney Rucker, also resides at Hill Crest Farm. Connie and Penny both graduated from Bridgewater College. Sue attended the International Institute of Design in Washington, D.C. with the thought of becoming an interior decorator. However, she discovered that breeding fine cattle appealed to her more than matching drapes and carpeting.

John served as a member of the Fauquier County School Board from 1956 to 1988. He is a director of the Fauquier Livestock Exchange.

Although the entire family is involved in the cattle business, Sue has taken the lead as the full time farm manager. Connie is an accountant with Lochnau Ltd., in Purcellville, Virginia. As a hobby, she tends a herd of sheep that range with the cattle. Penny is a school teacher in Portsmouth, and Marjorie is the business manager for the Fauquier County Livestock Exchange. Courtney is in the eighth grade and is a straight "A" student at Wakefield



John Rucker and his father, Bayard Rucker

School, a small private school, located in Marshall, Virginia.

Shortly after they became involved in Angus breeding, John and his brother, B. A., purchased a young bull for \$5,000. Their father, Bayard, was quite upset by his sons' extravagance until, the bull was selected National Grand Champion and repaid the initial purchase price many times over.

Over the years the family won so many blue ribbons for their agricultural achievements they made coverlets and quilts of them. Among the many trophy cups on display in the Rucker living room, one is inscribed "Presented by T. W. Wood & Sons Seedsmen for Best 10 Ears of Corn Exhibited at Virginia Corn Growers Association Show, January 1916." It was won by B. A. Rucker.

(Sudie Rucker Wood, author of The Rucker Family Genealogy, was married to William P. Wood, head of T. W. Wood and Sons.)

The 1993 Virginia State Fair proved no exception to the family's continually growing array of prizes for farming excellence; the family garnered the most points for cattle of their own breeding gaining them the honor of "Premier Breeder" of the year.

Although they still win their share of ribbons and trophies, show ring accolade is not a primary objective for the Ruckers. According to John, judges in recent years have chosen taller and longer cattle. John and Sue prefer medium-framed animals "that do the job, not just win ribbons." They have no monster bulls, although some of their animals weigh over two-thousand pounds. Sue's theory: "It is not how big they are, but how quickly their calves grow, how regular their production is."

During a tour of Hill Crest Farm, I noticed several donkeys tied neck-to-neck with young bulls. I asked if the donkeys were kept just as pets. "Heck no," replied John,

"They're breaking the bulls for show, teaching them to be led." He explained in his laconic style, "When the bull wants to go, they don't go. When the donkey wants to go, they go. No better way to train a bull."

The Ruckers tended their acreage with horses until 1947 when they purchased a Farmall Tractor. That same tractor is still working on the farm today although it has been relegated to light duty such as mowing and utility work, an indication of the care they provide both their equipment and their livestock.

The fact that Angus breeders as far away as Illinois return time and again to do business with the Ruckers is testimony to their reputation in breeding circles for honesty and solid product. They guarantee their bulls' performance and register all their cattle with the American Angus Association.

The big event of the year for the Ruckers occurs the Saturday after Thanksgiving when Hill Crest Farm becomes an auction ground for the family's annual cattle sale. Buyers come from many states to compete for the excellent Rucker Angus stock. At the annual "homecoming sale" they sell females ranging in age from six months to nine years. The majority of the bulls are sold under private treaty. Occasionally, groups of five to ten females are assembled and sold privately, as well.

In these modern times, however, some of their income comes from the sale of semen from their top notch bulls. In fact, the Ruckers overlook no aspect



The Ruckers, from left: John, Connie, Marjorie, Courtenay on Penny's lap, Sue

of modern breeding in managing their herd. For example, embryo transfer, a practice in which fertilized eggs from the womb of a super cow are transplanted to an average cow, is routinely practiced. This permits four or five offspring a year from a super cow. They expect each of their 130 cows to produce a calf once a year.

The Ruckers go to some lengths to provide their animals a healthful and stress free environment, knowing they will produce better under such circumstances. Calves are weaned at five to eight months, but the mothers and calves are kept in adjacent pens for several weeks as both experience the stress of separation. They do not believe in crowded, stressful feed lots, but allow their animals to roam freely over the hilly pastureland which keeps them stronger and healthier. While they cull hyperactive cows which disrupt the others with their silly antics, they have a tremendous loyalty to established producers which have outlived their productiveness.

Sue shows particular affection for the granny cows that have served the herd so well. One such favorite named Queen Lady produced prime calves for sixteen years and is now kept in the herd purely out of affection. They could cash in such a worn out carcass, with its arthritic joints and distended udders, for about \$500. However, out of loyalty to what these granny cows have done for the herd, the family takes particular effort to tend to

the needs and comforts of these veteran producers.

"Some of us just feel it's our calling to take care of these animals," Sue says. "It's more our family, it comes from my father. He cares about them and reacts emotionally. My father's that way, I'm that way. It comes from being a Rucker, not being a girl."

Several years ago John was slowed somewhat by the need for replacement prosthetics for an ankle and a knee. With new joints in place John is back to his previous strenuous work routine, although he prefers his four-wheel-drive all-terrain vehicle to walking the farm's 543 hilly acres.

A visit with John to the site of the family's roots, the Ridgeville farmhouse, was rather poignant. The large two story frame building [not the original] is nearly in ruins. The roof still keeps out the rain and most of the wavy, hundred-year-old-plus window panes are still intact, but the house has been abandoned for years and is probably beyond salvage. This land was once the property of Robert "King" Carter, the wealthiest man in Virginia when he died in 1732. He owned some 300,000 acres in the state. The original Ridgeville home was built in 1801 by a son or grandson of King Carter. John once found an ancient brick at Ridgeville inscribed with the initials "CLC", possibly indicating that it was fired at a kiln owned by the Carter family.

A visit with the Ruckers of Delaplane is a trip back in time. A time when families tended their land with genuine affection for their crops, their livestock and one another - a close warm feeling. John reports that perhaps 90% of all the people they sell to are part time farmers who obtain most of their income from other jobs. Because there are few serious professional breeders of fine cattle these days, the Ruckers of Hill Crest Farm are actually of a rare breed themselves.

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"Ridgeville" came into the family through the marriage of William Ambrose Rucker to Annie Chappellear. There is a family story that when Ridgeville was up for auction, Annie's father, Benjamin Chappellear, was there with his father-in-law, Robert Fletcher. Fletcher asked his son-in-law if he intended to buy the property which joined his. When William responded that he did not have enough money, Fletcher pulled a roll of currency from his pocket and provided a loan. Later, Benjamin gave the property to his daughter, Annie, and her husband, William Ambrose Rucker.
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Notes from Jean B. Robinson:

Hill Top Farm, across the road from Ridgeville, is located between Delaplane and Upperville in Fauquier County, VA. It has become a bedroom community of Washington D.C. and many of the elite of that area live in Fauquier. Our main claim to fame is that Paul Mellon lives in the home once owned by Robert Fletcher, whose granddaughter married William Ambrose Rucker. One of the Rucker babies is buried in the Fletcher/Mellon graveyard, see Wood, p.52.

From Fauquier County, VA. Tombstone Inscriptions, by Nancy Chappellear Baird (Chappellear cousin and Rucker Family Society member), p.39, Fletcher Cemetery at "Oak Spring Farm": H. S. Rucker/ son of W. A. & A. C. Rucker/ Born Sept. 25, 1875/ died June 9, 1876.

Ridgeville was the childhood home of my grandmother, Sudie Rucker Wood. Mike Rucker's grandmother, Lillian, was a sister of Sudie, and also grew up at Ridgeville.

(Interesting note: TV weatherman, Willard Scott, lives in the vicinity of Delaplane.)

John and Marjorie Rucker hosted the first Virginia Rucker Reunion in 1984. Photo at left is from that reunion in Fauquier Co. John is pictured at the right.



First Virginia Rucker Reunion--Fauquier County, VA

Front row: Bob Brydon, Lil Wood, Jean Brydon, Jeannie Robinson, John Rucker



Mr. and Mrs. John A. Ostertag

Ostertags celebrate 60 years together

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Ostertag will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary August 12, 1993, at the family residence. Their five children, John B. from Winchester, Virginia, Robert H. from Newport, Washington, Kent A. from Carpentersville, Illinois, Mrs. Ray (Lynn) Yazel from Independence, Missouri, and Mrs. John (Anne) Parker from Farber, Missouri, will be together for the first time. The Ostertags have 14 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

glasses, he vanquished them all. . . . Late in the evening the guests about 40 in number departed to their respective homes. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Rucker were the recipients of many handsome and useful presents from admiring friends and relatives. . . .

"In the evening a crowd of about thirty young people gathered and treated them with an old fashioned charivari, but they were equal to the occasion and invited their young friends in and the time passed very pleasantly in games and social intercourse until the wee small hours.

"It is not often that we are privileged to chronicle an affair of this kind, for the reason that such a thing does not happen very frequently. Think of it, reader! Fifty years of wedded life. Half a century spent in each others company, sharing the vicissitudes, trials and sorrows, happiness and joys of life as one person. Is it not wonderful?"

A 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY:

Enid and John Ostertag celebrated their Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary this summer. When sending in the enclosed news clipping, from the Saint Joseph Telegraph, August 5, 1993, she included an article about her great grandparents' 50th wedding anniversary celebration. The following is edited from the "Corning, OH, Gazette," dated 6 Apr 1899:

A 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY:

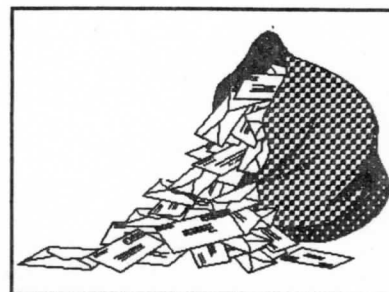
"Married at the family home, 2 1/2 miles northeast of Corning, Mr. Lewis B. Rucker and Mrs. Margaret Rucker, on Wednesday March 29, by Rev. D. N. Rose, with Henry Hilbert assisting as best man and lady, the ceremony being the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding [on 29 Mar 1849]. Quite a concourse of relatives and friends were present throughout the day and evening.

"The time passed very pleasantly until the dinner hour arrived when the guests repaired to the dining room and sat down to tables sumptuously laden with the good things of this life that would even have delighted the taste of an epicurean.

"After dinner an old fashioned shooting match was indulged in and Uncle Lew though he has passed the allotted three score and ten years of man's life met his opponents fairly and squarely and unaided by the use of

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ARCHELAUS REYNOLDS, PARENTAGE? Can anyone identify the parents of Archelaus Reynolds who married Elizabeth Rucker, daughter of Isaac Rucker (Wood, p.152) and Mildred Hawkins Plunkett? The Rennolds/Reynolds Family Roster, by S. F. Tillman, 1959, said his parents were Charles Reynolds and his 2nd wife, Ann Taylor. Other sources say his father was George Reynolds or Robert Reynolds and Ann Elizabeth White. From Bob Conner, 7099 George Barnes Road, Murrayville, GA 30564.



Editor's note: when Bob first wrote to me, I sent him a copy of the Archelaus Reynolds Family Bible, printed in the Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 18, No. 1, Jan. 1980, p.18. It said Archelaus Reynolds was the son of Charles Reynolds and Ann Taylor. Five children of Archelaus Reynolds and Elizabeth Rucker (m. 12 Sep 1797) were listed:

1. Willis Reynolds, b. 5 Jan 1799*.
2. Isaac R[ucker] Reynolds, b. 14 Dec 1800.
3. Charles B. Reynolds, b. 14 Sep 1802*.
4. Obadiah F. Reynolds, b. 13 May 1804.
5. Nancy T. Reynolds, b. 20 Nov 1805.

(* Note: These dates differ from what Wood has on p.152-153.)

Bob Conner said his ancestor, John W. Reynolds, born 23 Jan 1807, was not listed in the Bible. He asks, "Was it because the mother died three years later, 3 Apr 1810, and was too sickly to record it?" The Bible was printed in 1818, so the above records were written after the fact, meaning the Bible records were copied and not written at the time of the happening. Yes, there could be mistakes in copying or omissions as the writer saw fit. However, I doubt that a child was omitted. Reynolds Roster only lists the children mentioned in the family Bible. Elizabeth died 3 Apr 1810, so she could have had a child born in 1807.

Archelaus remarried to Sarah Miller and had six additional children. Sarah was born 9 Jun 1792 and her first child was born 3 Jan 1817. No marriage date is listed in the Bible, but she was probably married a couple of years earlier. If John was the son of Archelaus, he was the son of his first wife, Elizabeth Rucker.

Bob gave me the information of John W. Reynolds from his tombstone in Hall Co., GA: born 23 Jan 1807/ d. 11 Apr 1898/ son of Archelaus Woody Reynolds/ and Sally, his wife. He wondered if that could be a mistake and the family just didn't remember the first wife who died when John was three years old. Bob also told me of a William Archelaus Reynolds who m. Sarah Woody, in Amherst Co., VA. Bob hoped there wasn't another Archelaus Reynolds, as he really wants to be a Rucker descendant. Any help on this will be greatly appreciated. (See p.44 of this issue for additional information on the Reynolds family.)

RUCKERS BURIED IN THE SPRING GROVE CEMETERY, CINCINNATI, OHIO:

John M. Rucker/ Born 8 Dec 1893/ Rome, GA/ Died 16 Sept 1958 (unmarried)
 Parents: John Henry Rucker & LuAna Mills

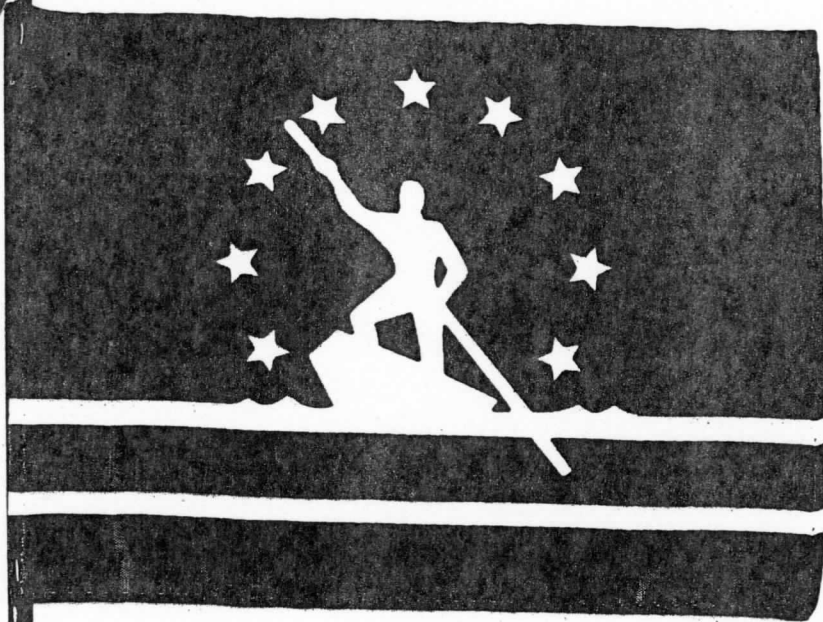
Lucy Rucker/ Born 23 April 1898/ Bowman, GA/ Died 2 Aug 1977 (unmarried)
 Parents: John S. Rucker & Rebecca Banks
 Sister-in-law: Mrs. Davey Rucker

Bennie G. Rucker/ Born 13 March 1900, Georgia/ Died 1 June 1976
 Parents: John S. Rucker & Rebecca Banks
 Spouse: Daisy Bagget

Mary Rucker/ Born 1 April 1864, New Jersey/ Died 5 April 1915

Jesse Rucker/ Born 1 March 1911, West Virginia/ Died 8 February 1981
 Parents: Matthew Rucker & Lela Harper
 Spouse: Helen Packard

"Does anyone know how these Ruckers descend from our progenitor, Peter Rucker? If anyone is in Cincinnati, it is worth a trip to this beautiful 733-acre cemetery with its 14 lakes, art and monuments. Many historical and famous people are buried there." Letter from Leslie (Burford) Cabral, 5601 S. 37th Court, Lake Worth, FL.



NEW CITY OF RICHMOND FLAG

Richmond, Virginia, has unfurled its new flag, a man poling a batteau. It was dedicated, November 24, 1993, in a ceremony at Brown's Island, in downtown Richmond, by Mayor Walter T. Kenney. Delivered by the "Lord Chesterfield," Chesterfield County's 60-foot long batteau, the flag represents the importance of the James River as a major economic focal point. The city has plans to renovate its old canals and locks in the downtown area.

The red, white, and blue flag, has nine stars representing Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and part of Minnesota--that were all carved out the original Virginia colony. The sky is blue, the river red, and the batteau and man white. A strikingly attractive flag, it replaces one that contained a Confederate motif.

The Rucker family can be proud that Richmond is represented by a flag that shows the James River batteau invented by ANTHONY AND BENJAMIN RUCKER, of Amherst County, VA.

THE RUCKER "GIRLS" OF THE WHITEHOUSE

"I am sure you will have other answers for the identity of James K. Polk's nieces who lived in the White House. They were, of course, not technically his nieces, but the nieces of his wife, Sarah Childress Polk. Sarah Polk's sister, Susan, had married William Reed Rucker in 1819. When Sarah and James K. Polk married, January 1, 1824, William Reed Rucker was just completing two terms as mayor of Murfreesboro, TN. James Knox Polk had just been elected to the Tennessee Legislature that then met in Murfreesboro. According to the recent Rutherford County history book, by Mabel Pittard, the Ruckers entertained the bride and groom along with other Murfreesboro families with house parties that lasted a week. The Rucker nieces did not become exposed to too wild of a life when they visited at the white House for Mrs. Polk, a devout Presbyterian, discontinued the practice of dancing and the serving of alcoholic drink during her husband's term.

"Several years ago I saw portraits of William Reed Rucker and Susan Childress Polk in the dining room of the James Knox Polk Ancestral Home in Columbia, TN. The guide explained who they were and what kinship they represented. I do not know if they still are displayed but I'm sure the association still would own the portraits and has preserved the information about them."

Many thanks to Mary Rucker Estes, Thousand Oaks, CA, for supplying the above information on the Rucker "girls" who lived in the White House. Both young women supposedly died a few years after their marriage. No known children survived. If anyone has additional information on this family, please send it to the editor.

Editor's note: the sisters were married the same day:

Sarah Polk Rucker, m. 6 Nov 1850, to James Philips.

Joanna Lucinda Rucker, m. 6 Nov 1850, to Robert B. Jetton.

(Source: Rutherford County, TN, Marriages, 1804-1872, submitted by Alice Rucker Allen, Austin, TX).

A third sister was Susan Childress Rucker, incorrectly listed as Sarah C. Rucker, see Wood, p.125.

OBITUARY OF AMBROSE RUCKER JR.

Raymonette Lanning, of Kansas City, MO, sent in the obituary of her father, Ambrose Rucker Jr. It did not get here in time for the last newsletter so will include it here.

Ambrose's cousin, Gerald Rucker, sent me a copy of the prayer that Ambrose wrote for the last reunion. It will be read again at our next reunion in memory of Ambrose.

LETTER FROM GERALD RUCKER OF LEBANON, OREGON

"My daughter and I visited Ambrose after his stroke. My daughter lives in Kansas City. We had been to his house before the stroke and another cousin and I visited there also. ...We had a great time together. He came to Oregon and visited me along with Ethel McDonnell and I was able to show him the 'nests' of this group of Ruckers. I also connected lots of my first cousins from others sisters of my father.

"I miss him and was greatly disappointed that I had to learn of his death from the Rucker Society Newsletter. Roberta, his daughter, and I had been in contact since she moved in to take care of her Dad. We talked several times on the phone. I had been to Raymonette's (his other daughter) home also several times with Ambrose. It is all very sad."

Gerald reminded me that at the 1992 Rucker Reunion he had made a recommendation that all Ruckers use the same program so that we can communicate with each other. He recommended the Mormon's PAF genealogy program. Cost is \$35, which is very reasonable for a genealogy program.

A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME:

Anne Rucker Glover of Hobe Sound, FL, sent me an interesting article printed in the 1970s. It is about a Rucker who changed his name back to its original spelling: von Ruekfrang! His ancestor, Johann Anton Baron von Ruekfrang, came to America from the Rhine Valley of Germany in the 18th century. He had trouble with his name so he changed it to Rucker. His descendant, John Anthony Deane Rucker Jr., age 48, of Palm Beach petitioned the court to change his name back to Johann Anton Baron von Ruekfrang. This was done in time for his marriage to "Princess" Jane Obolensky, former wife of Alexis Obolensky, who some say is a Russian Prince.

This made me think of the different spellings of the name Rucker. We have a tendency to think of Rucker as only having one spelling, but there are other names to consider when looking up your records. Don't overlook other spellings when researching your ancestor. The following are some that I've come up with. I'm sure you can come up with others.

Ruche, Rucher, Ruck, Rucke, Ruckel, Rucken, Ruckes, Ruckers, Ruckert, Ruckle, Ruckles, Ruckman, Ruckmon, Ruckner, Ruckor, Rucks, Rucky, Rudder, Rueker, Rutter...

AMBROSE S. RUCKER JR.

Ambrose S. Rucker Jr., 83, Kansas City in Clay County, died March 25, 1993, at the North Kansas City Hospital. Services will be at 3 p.m. Monday at Newcomer's White Chapel; burial in White Chapel Memorial Gardens Cemetery. Friends may call from 5 to 7 p.m. today at the chapel. The family suggests contributions to the American Heart Association. Mr. Rucker was born in Keytesville, Mo., and moved to this area in 1947. He worked for the correspondent banking division of Commerce Bank of Kansas City from 1947 until he retired as a vice president in 1975. He was a member of the Northgate Baptist Church. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin School of Banking in 1956. Survivors include a son, James A. Rucker, Derby, Kan.; three daughters, Mrs. Richard M. Lanning and Roberta Ann Haney of Kansas City, and Mrs. Dennis Daly, Gladstone; and six grandchildren.

FAMILY HISTORY - TRUTH OR LEGEND?

If your Family History is to be considered a Miracle, any sort of evidence will answer, but if it is to be Factual, proof is necessary.

This is an absolute law. Modifications of it are not permissible. For instance, the golfer, when he puts in a record round, has to have his card signed. If there is nobody to vouch for his feat except his caddy, then at golf this evidence would not be accepted. If his feat is put forward as Fact, the evidence of even two caddies is inadequate; if it is put forward as a Miracle, one caddy is plenty.

There is history to support this law - ages of history. There has never been a Miracle that noticeably resembled a Fact. Take illustration. This item is quoted from Henry Hudson's log - Hudson wrote it fourteen months before his discovery of the River.

This morning one of our companie looking overboard saw a mermaid, and calling up some of the companie to see her, one more came up and by that time she was come close to the ship's side, looking earnestly on the men. A little after a sea came and overturned her. From the navill upward her back and breasts were like a woman's, but her body as big as one of us. Her skin very white, and long hair hanging down behinde of colour blacke. In her going down they saw her tayle, which was like the tayle of a porposse, and speckled like a macrell. Their names that saw her were Thomas Hilles and Robert Rayner.

Observe, that was not a Fact, it was a Miracle - Hudson believes on the mere say-so of a couple of sailors. He knows they saw the mermaid, for he doesn't say they thought they saw, he says with convinced positiveness, they saw. As a Miracle, the sailor's say-so is quite sufficient - indeed, more than sufficient; there isn't a better grounded Miracle in history. But to one who considers that Hudson was registering the incident as a Fact, the evidence was but caddy evidence and quite inadequate.

Now for a Family History without irrefutable evidence, if one wishes to proceed upon the hypothesis that it is a Miracle, go right along, prepare your story, "legend" will supply overwhelming evidence. But if you wish to proceed upon the hypothesis that it is a Fact, wait till the data is gathered in comprehensive detail. It cannot be fair to decide upon a verdict any earlier.

(Submitted by Ron Payne, Falkville, AL, from a slightly modified writing of Mark Twain. Ron Payne came with a group to Raleigh, NC, to research last Spring. On one day of the trip they came to the Virginia State Archives and Ron and I met for a delightful visit and lunch. Ron is researching the descendants of Colby Rucker and is sharing Rucker data with me. He is also looking into placing a marker to the memory of Colby Rucker in Grainger Co., TN. I hope that even though Ron has run up against a brick wall, he will continue to pursue this project.)

Note: No material in this newsletter may be reprinted without written permission of the Editor.

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO SUDIE RUCKER WOOD'S BOOK, p.152-154

NOTE: In Wood, p.153, some of the children of Willis Reynolds are listed as grandchildren instead of children. Please correct as follows:

1. WILLIS⁵ M. REYNOLDS (Elizabeth⁴ Rucker, Isaac³, John², Peter¹), son of Archelaus Reynolds and Elizabeth Rucker, b. 5 Jan 1799, d. 18 Apr 1876; m. 1st 10 Oct 1821, Jane Dawson, d. 1 Jan 1845, dau. of Rev. Lewis Dawson; m. 2nd 14 Sep 1848, Camila McElroy.

Issue by 1st wife:

1. Francis⁶ Marion Reynolds, b. 19 Jan 1822; m. Sarah Frances Buchanan.
2. John⁶ P. Reynolds, b. 1823, d. 1862.
3. Charles⁶ Reynolds
4. Archelaus⁶ Reynolds
5. Marietta⁶ Reynolds; m. Edwin Muldew/Muldrew.
6. Elizabeth⁶ Reynolds
7. Amy⁶ Reynolds
8. Joseph⁶ Dawson Reynolds
9. Robert⁶ Harvey Reynolds, b. 1840; m. Mollie Verdun.

Issue by 2nd wife:

10. William⁶ Isaac Reynolds, b. 13 Jul 1850; m. 1894, Georgie Ella Turner, in Salin, OR.
11. Alice⁶ Reynolds, b. 1852, d. 1874; m. Edward E. Brown.
12. Mary⁶ Jane Reynolds, b. May 1853; m. Thomas D. Philips.
13. Edward⁶ Reynolds, b. 19 Sep 1855, Amarillo, TX. (15 children)
14. Benjamin⁶ Watkins Reynolds, b. 29 Jan 1859, of MO.

(Source: The Rucker Family Genealogy, by Sudie Rucker Wood, 1932 p.153-154; Rennolds/Reynolds Family Roster, by S. F. Tillman, 1959, p.377, submitted by Ron Payne; Archelaus Reynolds Family Bible, see p.40 of this newsletter.)

2. ISAAC⁵ RUCKER REYNOLDS (Elizabeth⁴ Rucker, Isaac³, John², Peter¹), b. 14 Dec 1800; m. 1st 6 Aug 1829, Nancy Ann Cox, d. 15 Jan 1832; m. 2nd 30 Jul 1833, Sarah Parks Burks, widow of Garland Rucker (Wood, p.99-100), b. 6 May 1803, d. 1868, dau. of Samuel Burks, of Bedford Co., VA. Sarah and her two children, by her first husband, William⁶ Garland Rucker and Mary⁶ T. Rucker, were given property, furniture, and slaves from her brother, Martin Parks Burks, "to help maintain them in their present destitute condition" (D. B. 21, p.519, 2 Dec 1829, Bedford Co., VA).

Issue by 1st wife:

1. Millnor⁶ Cox Reynolds, b. 29 Jun 1830, d. 17 May 1855.
2. Nancy⁶ Elizabeth Reynolds, b. 1832, d. 11 Nov 1854; m. _____ Watson.

Issue by 2nd wife:

3. Isaac⁶ Rucker Reynolds, b. 20 Apr 1844, d. 26 Apr 1844.

(Source: Wood, 152; Tillman, p.377; Archelaus Reynolds Family Bible; mar. of Isaac and Sarah from the Lynchburg Virginian, 17 Aug 1833, p.3, c.4.)

Note from the Editor: if anyone is working on this line, or is a descendant, please send me a self-addressed stamped envelope and I will send you a copy of the Archelaus Reynolds Family Bible.

THE REYNOLDS FAMILY ASSOCIATION
Descendants of Christopher Reynolds of VA

The Rucker family is closely associated with the Reynolds family and some of you may want to join the society. Annual dues of \$10.00 should be sent to Steve Roth, 11316 Washington St., Omaha NE 68137.

Incorporated in 1977, the organization was founded in 1892. The newsletter, "Reynolds Recollection," dates from 1983. The family has an annual reunion.

Thomas Rucker, son of Peter Rucker, married Elizabeth Reynolds, daughter of Cornelius and Martha Reynolds (see Wood, p.175), so all descendants of Thomas are descendants of the Reynolds family.

Elizabeth⁴ Rucker (Isaac³, John², Peter¹) married Archelaus Reynolds, for whom Bob Conner is trying to document (see Questions and Answers, p.40).

"REACH OUT TO RUCKERS"

Send a membership to someone as a Christmas Gift

1994 DUES ARE NOW DUE--PLEASE RENEW

1994 Rucker Reunion - June 11 & 12, 1994

Information about the reunion will appear in the next newsletter